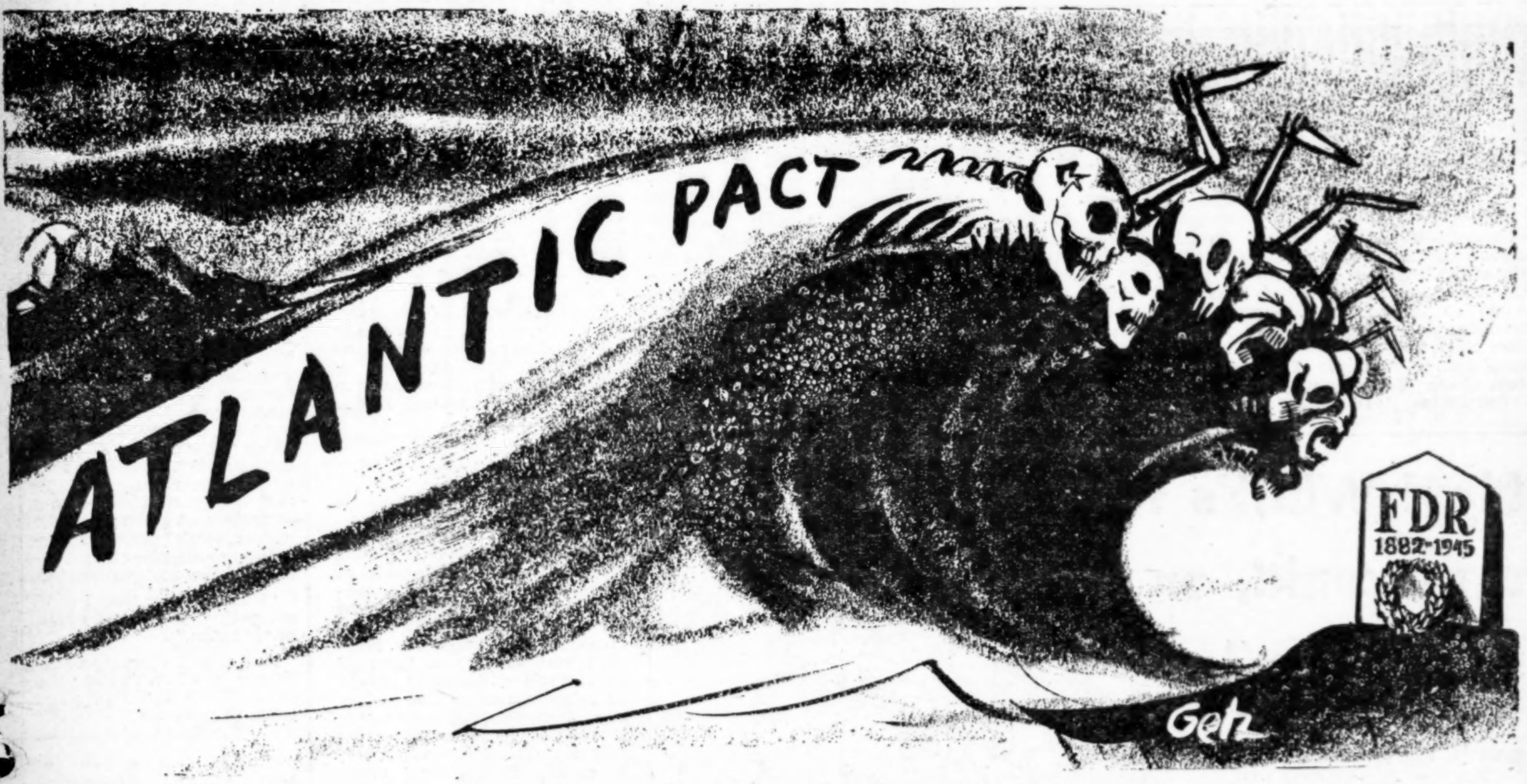
The N.Y. cultural conference for peace, March 25

SEE PAGE 10

NATIONAL
GUARDIAN
the progressive newsweekly

Vol. I, No. 23 NEW YORK, N. Y., MARCH 21, 1949 10 Cents



"Lead us . . . with our sister nations into a world unity that will spell a sure peace — a peace invulnerable to the schemings of unworthy men — a peace that will let all men live in peace, reaping the just rewards of their honest toil."

—Franklin D. Roosevelt, *D-Day Prayer*

'The world is being divided for war'

By Konni Zilliacus

Mr. Zilliacus is the British Labor Member of Parliament from whom the Labor Party recently withdrew its support because he adheres to the letter and spirit of the platform on which the Party was elected. He is to make a lecture tour of the U.S. in May.

LONDON

THE authors of the Atlantic Pact appear to believe that if you call a skunk-cabbage a rose, it will stop stinking and smell sweetly.

The Atlantic Pact throws overboard the United Nations Charter and reverts to the balance of power, with the usual trimmings of an arms race.

Let us face the fact that the world is being divided for war. Let us not befuddle our brains with claptrap and rubbish about a 'regional' agreement—comprising the Western hemisphere, the British, French, Dutch and Belgian Empires, Western Europe and America's far-flung lines of "defense" circling the globe and surrounding the socialist third of humanity.

EVERYTHING EXCEPT—. It is clearly untrue that everything has been tried to come to terms with the Soviet Union. People who talk like that remind me of the old saying about the rich—that they will do anything for the poor except get off their backs.

We have done everything to reach agreement with the Soviet Union except (1) to treat them as partners and not enemies in settling the affairs of Europe, Greece and Germany, and (2) to accept the right of the workers to advance towards socialism as they see fit, under the leadership of political parties of their own choice.

Equally false is the argument of the Atlantic Pacters that by banding together and starting an arms race, we shall be in a better position to settle differences with the Soviet Union; that is called the "argument from strength."

That is where I came in. As an official of the League of Nations Secretariat I spent many years of my life fighting the heresies and follies of the balance of power.

WE HAVEN'T LEARNED. Sir Edward Grey, the British Liberal Foreign Secretary who landed us in the first world war (with the best intentions), thus summed up the lesson that war was supposed to have taught mankind:

> **"Great armaments lead inevitably to war. If there are armaments on one side, there must be armaments on the other sides. . . .**
>
> **"The enormous growth of armaments in Europe, the sense of insecurity and fear caused by them—it was these that made war inevitable. This, it seems to me is the truest reading of history, and the lesson that the present should be learning from the past in the interests of future peace."**

And now along comes the U.S. as an eager convert to the errors and abominations of Europe's power politics and the old diplomacy, which the American people had so heartily denounced throughout most of their history.

EXPLOSION OR FRIENDSHIP. How will it all end? There are three possibilities.

This first is war. The second was indicated by Sir Edward Grey in 1912, when he warned during the first great arms race that:

> **"The burden of armaments will be dissipated by internal revolution—not by nations fighting against each other, but by the revolt of masses of men against taxation. . . ."**

In 1936, during the second great arms race, Winston Churchill told the House of Commons:

> **"Either there will be a melting of hearts and a joining of hands between great nations which will set out upon realizing the glorious age of prosperity and freedom which is now within the grasp of the millions of toiling people, or there will be an explosion and a catastrophe the course of which no imagination can measure, and beyond which no human eye can see."**

Will some statesman arise who can end the third arms race by that "melting of hearts and joining together of hands between great nations" of which Churchill spoke so movingly, before civilization perishes in revolutions and wars?

THE MOBILIZATION AGAINST THE ATLANTIC PACT...Page 3

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GUARDIAN
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Published weekly by Weekly Guardian Associates, Inc., 17 Murray Street, New York 7, N. Y. Telephone WOrth 4-6390. Ten cents on newsstands—$4 a year by subscription. Application for entry as 2d class matter pending.

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THE MAILBAG

Chafee's view

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

I appreciate your asking me to contribute an article on the trial of the leaders of the Communist Party, but I am not able to do so because of heavy commitments otherwise. My views about the legislation are contained in Chapter 12 of my book, **Free Speech in the United States** (1941). There is one thing which can be said in favor of this trial. The government has not gone after obscure people but after the very top men. If anybody ought to be tried under this statute, these are the men. One cannot say that the government has cast its net for the little fish and let the big ones swim away. A particularly repulsive feature of Communists' trials under state statutes has been their use against ignorant members of the party. See my discussion of the Boloff case in Oregon, beginning at page 478 of my book.

Zechariah Chafee Jr.

Of the many and varied liberals and intellectuals whom we have asked to comment freely on the Communist trial, Mr. Chafee is one of the few to reply. Ed.

•

Miss Strong to China?

BELL, CALIF.

If it can be arranged, I think it would be just wonderful for Anna Louise Strong to go direct to China and see what the new liberation government or the Communists are doing.

Mrs. Minnie M. Armstrong

•

Force and fraud

NEW YORK, N.Y.

Now it is the North Atlantic Pact that is being put over without permitting tne peoples affected to first learn what exactly is the nature of the commitments the pact will impose on them.

But let no one forget that pacts based, like this one is, on force and fraud do not make for peace but for war. The North Atlantic Pact is the climax of the idiocy of the Truman foreign policy. If the Senate ratifies such a monstrosity it will show the extent of its political bankruptcy of which the filibuster marathon is another clear demonstration.

John B. Clark

•

Pius XII vs. Spellman

NEW YORK, N.Y.

As a Roman Catholic, I am very much embarrassed by the vicious methods of Cardinal Spellman in his nauseating efforts to bust a union, which is composed of hard working Catholic laborers, struggling to get a living wage. This "communistic" desire of theirs was vigorously and strongly defended—not by William Z. Foster or Stalin but Pope Pius XII himself, in one of his most famous encyclicals, titled Quadragesimo Anno! The part that really turns my stomach is the Cardinal's hypocritical phrase, "corporal work of mercy." As for me, I'd turn over in my grave if I knew it was dug by a scab.

The whole world knows about the activities of Mindszenty and Spellman, but how many know that the Minister of Health in Czechoslovakia is a Roman Catholic priest named Father Plojhar?

Gregory Varhol

See Czech story, page 4. Ed.

•

Eye opener

BLOOMINGTON, IND.

I would like to suggest that religious news be given a special caption. I think some of our churches are slowly beginning to realize that the Marshall Plan is only a "martial plan" and for this they should be given credit. Too often church people are led astray by the rasping cry of the press that all churches should join in a holy war against Communism.

Robert M. Smith

•

Man of principle

TUCKAHOE, N.Y.

Having read his statement of principles in GUARDIAN of March 7 I pray with all my heart for God's blessings on such a man as Henry A. Wallace. Such Christianity might have done us some good if we had given it a chance.

Julia Uhl

•

Qualified

EVANSTON, ILL.

My religion is "the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man" which, I am sure, will qualify me in the eyes of the Un-American Committee as a "Communist". I'm scared—so, can at least give $1 for your paper to learn the truth about some of the witch hunts which are getting worse. Freedom is more essential than peace.

Anne K. Wheeler

•

Hurray for W. J.

MACOMB, MO.

Sabotage in the first degree that what it is!! What is? Why it's omission of Winston J. Dugan's immortal classic that's what! Let's have no excuses, get it back in GUARDIAN. Hurray for Winston J.

Al H. Coffey

•

A dull gray?

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

I find the GUARDIAN interesting, well made-up and well edited. Above all, I find a certain sincerity of purpose which many papers — right, center and left — seem to find cumbersome these days.

I do hope that you continue to print what you believe to be honest news and opinion, letting the chips fall where they may, and that you never, never fall into the trap of letting yourselves and/or your readers consider that black is all black and white is all white. A dull gray might, at times, possibly be the right answer.

(Name withheld)

Anna Louise Strong writes

CONNECTICUT

I am much moved by your write-up in the GUARDIAN. It lies on my bed as I dictate, here in a quiet New England village, with deep snow and quiet outside my windows, trying under a very good doctor's care to recover in heart and nerves from the shock of these recent weeks. It was a kind write-up, and understanding, and there are few who are kind.

The hardest thing of all, the real agony, was not my own immediate fate but the thought of my work for China and how it crashed. To each of the six left-wing publishing houses in six European countries that were in process of publishing my book on China, I have sent the following note:

"In view of the accusation that has been brought against me and in order to save as much as possible of the valuable material I brought from China, which is useful for the world democratic front, I hereby authorize you (1) To publish my book with or without my name or with any pseudonym; (2) To publish with or without royalty; (3) To take any parts thereof, and so inset and surround them with material by your editors as to disguise their original source and authorship.

"I still believe that I shall see you, with cleared name, once again."

And now I must rest and gather strength to face the Grand Jury and still other trials ahead.

Anna Louise Strong

(The factual account of Miss Strong's deportation from the U.S.S.R. on charges of "espionage" will appear shortly in the press. Miss Strong will analyze her experience, and draw positive conclusions for the progressive movement, in an exclusive forthcoming series of articles in NATIONAL GUARDIAN—Ed.)

•

Anguished howls

RICHMOND, CALIF.

The declarations of Togliatti, Thorez, Pollitt, Foster and Dennis that the common man is not to be used for cannon fodder at the behest of financial magnates are raising howls of anguish. Of course, anything that militates against the schemes of financiers in New York, London, Paris and Amsterdam is high treason. But Wallace, as usual, is right in saying that in view of conditions existing in this country Foster and Dennis have made a great mistake.

J. N. McCullough

Hey! What's this— a pyramid, or something?

NATIONAL GUARDIAN
Nat. Guar.
Nat. Guar.
Nat. Guar.
Nat. Guar.
Nat. Guar.

PERISH the thought!

But now that we have your attention, the idea we want to talk about is not very different. It's about NATIONAL GUARDIAN circulation—and you.

Without resorting to Pyramid Clubs but with the active aid of our readers from the very start of publication last Oct. 18, GUARDIAN circulation has been more than redoubled. If you are a typical GUARDIAN reader, you yourself have probably signed up at least one fellow subscriber. Some readers have signed up dozens. The "Every Reader Get a Reader" method has truly worked wonders for the GUARDIAN.

BUT circulation needs constant building if a publication is to make its way financially and increase in effectiveness and value. This is why we of the GUARDIAN turn again to you readers—oldtimers and newcomers—for a helping hand on circulation.

We have tried to make the GUARDIAN valuable to you—balancing the news, providing viewpoints and information not to be found in other publications. If the GUARDIAN has been valuable to you, other people you know will find its contents equally valuable if you give them the opportunity.

So, even if you've done your bit before, we ask you to pitch in again—by undertaking the following few, simple steps.

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THE WORLD

The fight against the Atlantic Pact

ALTHOUGH the text of the long-discussed North Atlantic Pact was not made public until last week end, an attempt will be made to railroad it through the Senate by April 2, allowing only the next two weeks for public discussion.

In anticipation of such a maneuver, a Conference on Foreign Policy in Washington last week brought together 70 leaders of national and community organizations from 14 states to mobilize opposition to the Pact's ratification without public hearings.

Reports to the conference indicated widespread opposition among senators who thus far have hesitated to voice their misgivings for fear of being labeled "red."

TO STIMULATE public discussion and provide necessary information for communications to all senators, NATIONAL GUARDIAN this week summarizes the growing opposition to the Pact—not only by left-wing groups but by conservatives, churchmen, businessmen, labor and others who believe that the Pact will bring war instead of peace and suppression rather than extension of democracy here as well as abroad.

The Atlantic Pact has been formulated in an atmosphere of complete secrecy and at a time when anti-Soviet hysteria has tended to produce a paralysis of expression. This hysteria is so intense that even conservative critics feel safer attacking the pact indirectly rather than directly. Nonetheless the opposition, both open and latent, is so great that it is beginning to be heard.

They don't want to die

IT is becoming clear that the people of Western Europe, from right to left, fear the Pact is a decisive step to a war in which the U.S. plans to use their countries as a battleground and considers them as expendable.

France

France has given its official blessing to the Atlantic Pact. But many anti- and non-Communist groups, as well as the Communist Party, which holds the allegiance of about 30% of the electorate, are uneasy and fearful.

The **N. Y. Times** Paris correspondent on Feb. 26 reported France's "profound fear of war" and "the profound aversion of the French to being obliged to resist any army. Defense pacts are associated with the risk of war. The Atlantic Pact symbolizes that division of Europe and of the world that the leaders of all parties have taught French people in recent years to fear."

LIBERATION PHOBIA. Early in March the Academician Etienne Gilson in the conservative Paris **Monde,** urged that France and Western Europe maintain neutrality as between the Soviet and American blocs and strive constantly to lessen the antagonism between the great powers.

"Many non-Communists in France and Italy," according to C. L. Sulzberger in the **Times,** March 6, will oppose the Atlantic Pact. "Even some conservative circles in France are nervous about the alliance idea," he added. And he stressed that the "one sentiment which unites all classes and parties in these disunited countries is the overwhelming fear of war and another military occupation."

The French Cabinet, reported the **Times** on March 9, is showing "no great enthusiasm" for the difficult task of explaining the Pact to the public. "In the lobbies of the Assembly," this dispatch said, "some expressed fear that the Pact might somehow drag France into war on a slight provocation."

A Catholic deputy, Paul Boulet, expressed the strong sentiment in France for ending the cold war. On March 1 he asked the French government to invite Truman and Stalin to meet in Paris. France's President, Vincent Auriol, Socialist, reflected French fears of the Pact when in the very act of signifying his intention to sign it he expressed the hope for an early meeting of the Big Four.

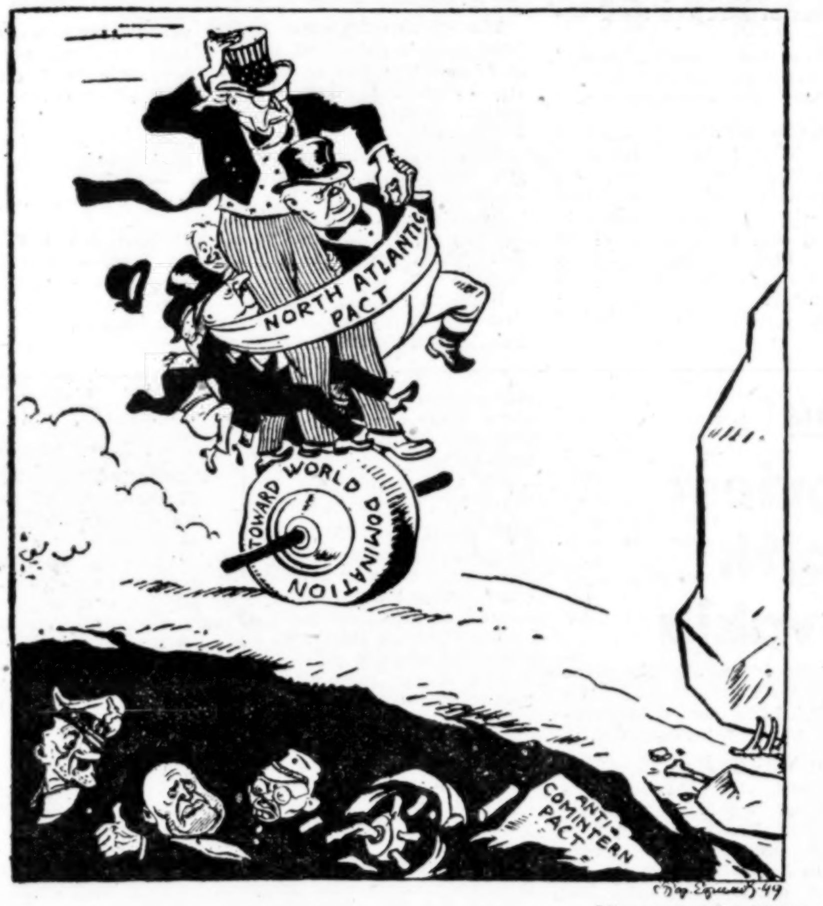
Italy

In Italy as in France, opposition to the Pact embraces anti- and non-communists as well as the Communist Party which has the overwhelming allegiance of the Italian workers.

Most significant opposition to the Pact was the decision of the directorate of the Saragat right-wing Socialist Party to oppose Italy's participation in the Pact as damaging not only to Italian but to European interests.

Saragat, who supports the Pact, managed to keep his post in the government despite his party's opposition. But the **Times** reported from Rome on March 8 that Saragat's "chances of obtaining a majority in his party's congress [in June] are thought to be vanishing rapidly."

The Socialist Party paper **Avanti** has declared that the Pact will make Italy "an American colony."



Literary Gazette, Moscow

Fascist Aggressors: "Once upon a time, we too coasted down this little road. . . ."

Scandinavia

Despite the probable adherence of Norway and Denmark to the Atlantic Pact, fear is widespread throughout Scandinavia that the U.S. is planning to use this region as a site for bombing bases against the Soviet Union.

"Swedish students of foreign affairs," according to the wellknown Swedish journalist Gunnar Fagrell, writing in the March 14 **New Republic** (which supports the Atlantic Pact), "have reached the conclusion that the U.S. wants the decks cleared for attack on the Soviet Union. Bases in Norway prepared for American planes, ships and troops would mean a great advantage were a war of aggression contemplated," he reported. ". . . In general it is safe to say that nobody in Scandinavia wants to act as vanguard in a war of aggression against the Soviet Union."

Germany

British and American spokesmen have made clear that the Atlantic Pact will ultimately require large scale rearmament of Germany and the use of German manpower. Even Germans do not like the Atlantic Pact or the permanent split in Germany which it envisages.

"Neutrality in the impasse between the East and the West is being stressed by a number of 'discussion groups' and 'circles' in Western Germany, much to the concern of United States officials," the **Times** reported from Berlin on Feb. 27. "These groups have developed swiftly in the last six months."

The material on this page illustrates a significant cross-section of opposition to the North Atlantic Pact.

The Editors of the GUARDIAN recommend that you use this material to write to your Senator, stating your views and asking him to insist on time for adequate public debate and public hearings by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

America: Opposition is latent — but potent

THE peaceful intentions of the great majority of American people are reflected in a resolution passed this month by the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America—affirming "a calm conviction that war with the Soviet Union is not inevitable" and that "contradictory ideologies can coexist without armed conflict if propagated by methods of tolerance."

The opposition of most Americans to military adventures such as the Atlantic Pact is, in the present atmosphere of hysteria and secrecy, largely latent. But the Pact has so frightened even some of the most ardent advocates and authors of the cold war that they are now speaking out against one or another of its phases.

John Foster Dulles told the Federal Council of Churches that he knew no responsible official of this or any nation who believes Russia plans war. He warned that U.S. attempts to establish military power on Russia's frontiers, as in Scandinavia, are dangerous acts of provocation.

The Federal Council itself—despite the unprecedented appearance of a State Department official, Charles Bohlen, at a secret session to try and undo the effect of Dulles' remarks—sent a report to its churches saying that "no defensive alliance should be entered into which might well appear as aggressive to Russia as a Russian alliance with Latin America would undoubtedly appear to us."

FLIRTING WITH TNT. Walter Lippmann, conservative columnist of the **New York Herald Tribune,** has warned that the U.S. is courting disaster by trying to build bases so close to Russia and by contemplating the restoration of German military might.

Conservative senators like Connally and George have expressed concern with the economic difficulties which they believe will be accelerated if a new heavy burden of armaments is imposed. Senator Taft and others have declared they will vote for the Pact but not for armaments appropriations designed to back it up. This opposition in reality reveals indirect opposition to the Pact itself.

An important section of American business opposes the Pact largely because it realizes that it will lose the benefits it now derives from ECA if government funds are diverted from Marshall Plan shipments to armaments. **The Wall St. Journal,** reflecting the opposition of important business circles, said on Jan. 13:

"It is a far from demonstrated fact that the only way to guarantee Western European security from aggression is for America to pour practically unlimited quantities of planes, tanks and guns into economically weak countries. Our Grecian adventure, while not strictly comparable, nonetheless suggests the contrary."

IT CANNOT SUCCEED. Another group opposing the Atlantic Pact includes liberals and conservatives who support the Marshall Plan because they believe it is contributing to the recovery of Europe. The most articulate spokesman for this point of view is the conservative banker James P. Warburg who has circulated to Congress a complete critique of the Pact, demonstrating that it cannot achieve the aims it professes.

The Progressive Party and Henry Wallace have consistently fought the Atlantic Pact as economically unsound, a weakening of the United States and a real danger to U.S. security.

NEXT WEEK: Why can't the Pact achieve what its sponsors claim for it? Why is it a death-blow at UN?

The Marshall Plan in France

'Who wants pork grease?'

By Stanley Karnow

PARIS

INSIDE their cluttered grocery store, Monsieur and Madame Agier (pronounced Ah-zhay) don't hold any political opinions.

"Me, I'm a shop keeper," shrugs Agier, "I've got to be careful."

But behind the shop, in the small, blue-wallpapered dining-room where the Agiers spend their tired evenings, political discussion runs hot.

Sitting over rum-spiked black coffee and tumblers of sweet white wine, Monsieur Agier rattles away while his wife, bustling back and forth from the kitchen, seasons the conversation with salty expletives.

Like most French people, the Agiers don't think of politics in the abstract. To M. Agier, a political discussion means talking about the "facts of life."

SO THAT'S IT! For example, he was a bit perplexed when the term "Marshall plan" got into the conversation the other night, but then he quickly understood when he thought about the 50 pounds of American **saindoux** (lard) lying out in the store.

"**Tiens,**" he said lightly, with a slight smile of comprehension, "so that's the Marshall plan?"

"The **salauds** (bastards)", his wife interposed curtly.

M. Agier explained, with gestures, how his wholesaler had delivered to him 50 pounds of lard the week before.

"Who wants pork grease?" he raised his shoulders.

"Pigs," his wife laughed.

IT SAYS HERE. He ignored her. "This is what happens with lard," he went on, and recounted, with theatrical flourishes, a typical episode:

The other day, a **client** comes into the store and asks me for his monthly ration of butter.

"No butter this month," I say.

The customer gets a little excited and says, "What d'you mean, no butter? I've got a right to butter. It says so here in my ration book."

Then, like I was the Minister of Foreign Trade, I gotta explain. "You see, sir," I say to the customer, "too much lard was sent over from the U. S. last month, so no one gets butter until it is used up."

GO TO AMERICA! Now I see I'm going to have a fight on my hands.

The customer shouts back, "But there's plenty of butter in France. I've just come from the country. I know there's butter. Where're you hiding it?"

So I yell back at him, "If you want butter, go to America. Here we got lard."

Then the customer starts abusing the farmers. "Why don't the farmers make butter?"

He's a regular customer, this one, so I'm patient with him. I say, "Because if there was butter nobody would buy lard and we gotta sell the lard. We paid dollars for it and we gotta use it."

"Oh," he answers, "then what are the farmers doing with all the milk?"

"They're making cheese with it," I tell him.

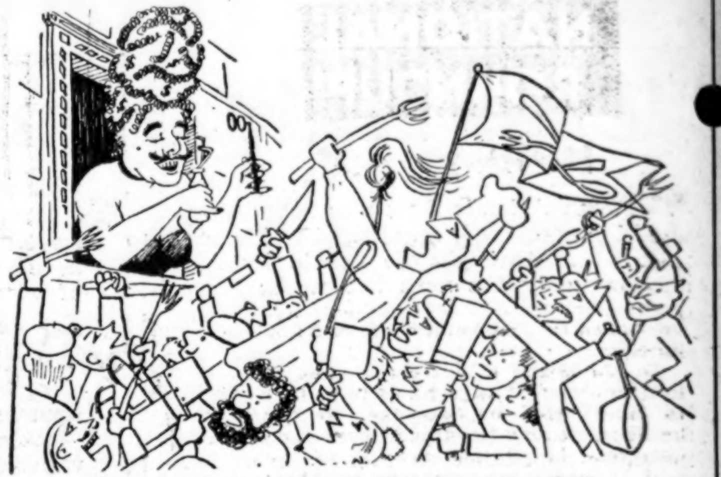
IF YOU HAVE IT. At this he calms down considerably and says, "All right then, I'll take a pound of cheese—**gruyere** if you have it."

"But there's no cheese either," says I.

"No cheese?" the customer screams, "but you just told me the farmers are making cheese."

"They are," I say, "but the government can't make up its mind whether to give us the cheese or export it."

"Ah, the government—," the customer's eyes begin to shine like he was going crazy or something. He starts to say something, then changes his mind and mumbles, "I'll take a pound of lard please."



Marie Antoinette Acheson: "Let 'em eat coke."

Churches and curtains

A Catholic priest plans the health of Czechoslovakia

By Freda Cook

PRAGUE

ENORMOUS efforts are being made by the new governments of Eastern Europe to work with church officials, to respect their wishes and to use their long experience in welfare work for the benefit of the state. To these efforts, the Vatican says, "No."

In Czechoslovakia I have interviewed many persons concerned with the relationship between church and state, and I have talked to the officials of the Commission for Religious and Church Questions charged with such problems as how the clergy should be paid; the place of religious education, and the attitude of the church to week-end voluntary work brigades.

CLERICAL ADVICE. Joseph L. Hromadka, Dean of the Hus Faculty of Theology of Charles University, Prague, and a prominent non-Catholic clergyman, told me that never in the history of the Republic has the state paid so much attention to the opinion of the clergy in drafting legislation.

Until June last year relations between church and state appeared to be proceeding in a friendly fashion. Archbishop Beran told an American reporter who asked if Communism and Catholicism could live side by side: "Why not look at me? I am the proof." Later the Archbishop visited Rome and the trouble began.

THE PLOJHAR CASE. Father Plojhar, Catholic priest who had been a prisoner in Buchenwald under the Nazis, was elected to the Senate in 1945 by the Catholic Party. In May, 1948, he became Minister of Health and a member of the cabinet of the new government.

Under his publicly-stated principle, "every priest today must work and fight for a practical application of Christianity, not simply a theoretical doctrine," he has done exemplary work.

But then came instructions from the Vatican that no priest should take an active part in politics. Father Plojhar refused to resign his post. The Church suspended him from his duties as a priest and posted notice of his suspension on all Catholic church doors in the country.

Despite this attack on the authority of the cabinet, the government continued to seek the advice of the Religious Commission on legislative matters. Dr. Hulp, commission chairman, told me about its work, which is slower than it should be, he said, because Catholic bishops must consult higher organs of their church before making decisions.

PAID BY STATE. The clergy today are paid by the state, like all welfare workers, and receive fees for parish services in addition. They receive rations graded for white collar workers. Negotiations are now being held for increased salaries and for greater clothing allowances.

Religious education is protected by state law, which provides two periods a week in all state schools for religious instruction. Sunday schools carry on without any interference. A number of church schools exist in Bohemia, but they were closed in Slovakia because they were centers of reaction. Monks and nuns were granted the right to work in state schools, but the Vatican has prohibited such cooperation.

Lilliput, London

On in three minutes!

United Nations photo

By Marcelle Hitschmann

LAKE SUCCESS

"HEALTH is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not only the absence of disease and infirmity . . . it is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic and social condition. . . . The health of all peoples is fundamental to the attainment of peace and security and is dependent upon the fullest cooperation of individuals and states."

Who drafted the above principles? Men and women from such diverse countries as India, Brazil, France and 56 other nations which belong to the World Health Organization. These progressive principles are part of the preamble of the constitution of WHO, one of the largest and most active specialized agencies of the UN.

WAR ON DISEASE. From its headquarters in Geneva, the WHO maps the strategy for its war against disease. With a ridiculously small budget of $5,000,000 it has already achieved spectacular results. The cholera outbreak in Egypt in November, 1947, was checked in six weeks. The WHO obtained vaccine donations from countries all over the world, bought vaccine cheaply, air-shipped it to Egypt and neighboring countries. It saved millions of lives. Alone the Egyptian government would have collapsed under the task.

Six top priority programs were approved by the WHO for 1949:

- Control of malaria which strikes 300,000,000 people every year, killing 3,000,000.
- Control of tuberculosis which affects 50,000,000 people a year, killing 5,000,000. The WHO, in cooperation with the International Children Emergency Fund and the Scandinavian Red Cross Organizations, will examine 50,000,000 children and adolescents in war-ravaged Europe, and will vaccinate about 20,000,000 of them with BCG vaccine.
- Promotion of material and child welfare: WHO experts in cooperation with governments are trying to reduce the death rate among mothers and infants and the high rate of children communicable diseases.
- Control of venereal infections, based on penicillin treatment.
- A program of "environmental hygiene" including investigation of water supplies, sewage disposal and sanitary facilities.
- A nutrition program in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization. The WHO believes that a real program for underdeveloped areas begins with the eradication of disease and unsanitary conditions, which undermine the people's health and keep their labor productivity extremely low.

NATIONAL ROUNDUP

Holiday's end

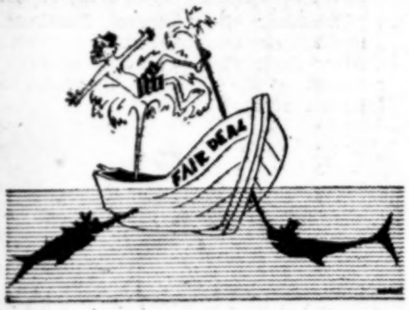
THE barracuda were running well off the Florida Keys last week. The President had caught one and posed with it on Wednesday. That triumph apparently heartened him, for at his press conference on Friday he seemed unshaken by disappointments in Washington.

In the shade of a coconut palm he told newsmen that he hated to go back to Washington on Saturday. He said he knew he was faced by a three-party Congress of Republicans, Democrats and Dixiecrats and his plan to take a train to tell the people about it all was still in his mind, though no arrangements had been made. At the end he said gently that it was still a new Congress and ought to be given a chance.

In fact, though, Congress had been in session for two months and reduced to a shambles every promise of progressive legislation for which the people had voted last November.

LEAKING FAIR DEAL. From the first week of the 81st Congress, it had become increasingly apparent that Harry Truman's Fair Deal wouldn't have fair sailing. By last week it had sprung a dozen leaks and was in for a scuttling as a coalition of Republicans, Dixiecrats and reactionary northern Democrats took over effective control of both houses of Congress.

Wednesday, March 16, was the day of the Big Defeat for the people. In the Senate the filibusterers against civil rights won hands down, forcing through a measure that will make more difficult than ever passage of laws against lynching, poll-taxes and segregation.



In the House the Administration rent control bill was ripped apart. To top it off, a Senate committee pigeon-holed President Truman's nomination of his close friend, Mon C. Wallgren, to head the National Security Resources Board.

Killing the nomination in committee was not only a personal defeat for the President; it was an insult. The opposition was rubbing it in.

Negro hopes die

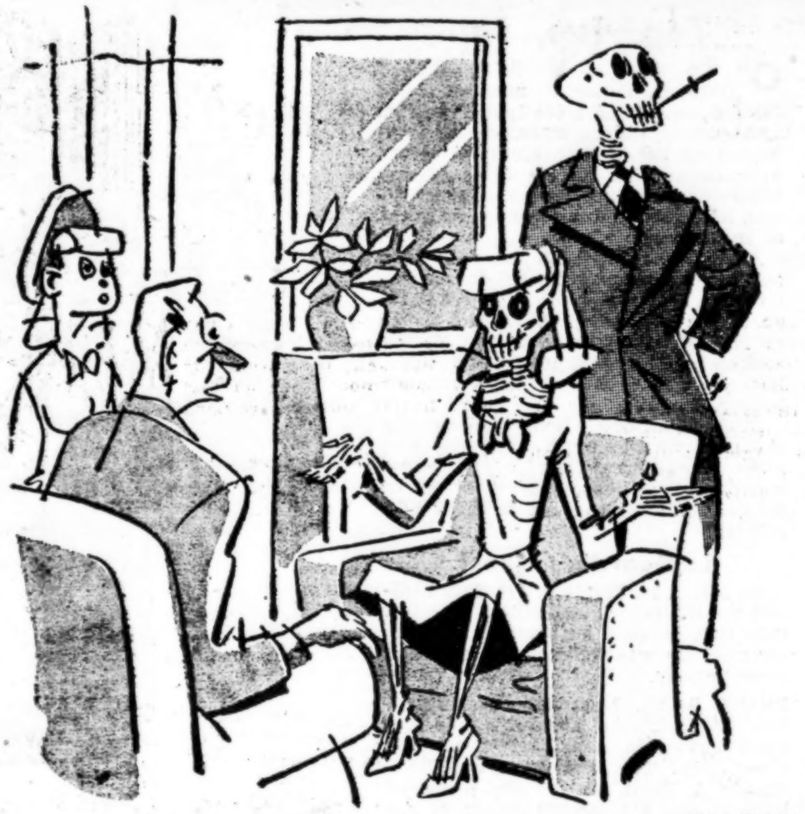
Administration forces were completely routed on the civil rights filibuster, which had lasted 17 days. Twenty-two Republicans teamed up with 30 Democrats—not all of them from the South—to force adoption of a measure requiring a total of 64 Senators to shut off debate on any question (previously two-thirds of Senators present could invoke cloture). In addition, it specified that debate on a motion to change a Senate rule could not be limited in any way.

Most commentators described this as a defeat for Harry Truman. Actually, it was a body-blow to 15,000,000 Negro citizens.

NO EXCUSE. Henry Wallace called it a "bi-partisan betrayal," and pinned most of the blame on Harry Truman:

"The Administration cannot disclaim responsibility for Dixie-Democrats so long as they retain their full party privileges, their top committee assignments and their patronage.

"No complicated parliamentary maneuvers can explain away the failure of the Democratic leadership to break the filibuster by around-the-clock sessions of the Senate. No double talk can account for the action of Sen. Hayden of Arizona, Democratic chairman of the Senate Rules Committee, in voting against his own cloture resolution. No statement from the White House can make clear why a vacation in Key West was the strongest weapon President Truman could devise to whip his party into line."



Fred Wright

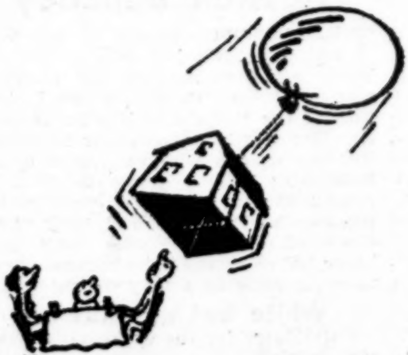
"... And by eliminating food from our budget we now can afford a high standard of living."

Republicans too

Republicans had blatantly betrayed their platform pledge on civil rights. They had refused to bind themselves by party discipline to their election promises. Dewey and Taft, the party leaders, had remained silent. Vandenberg had delivered the most effective arguments in behalf of the Dixiecrats.

MORE WRECKING. On Tuesday, the House passed and sent to the Senate a rent control bill that would end rent controls by allowing states, counties and cities to lift federal curbs in their areas whenever they felt like it. This clause was adopted 227 to 188, with 71 Democrats lining up with 156 Republicans.

In the Senate a sub-committee acted to wreck rent controls still more: It voted for a general 15% increase in rents over a 12-month period starting Oct. 1, and also went on record in favor of rent control passing to the States when they are equipped to take over.



Debacle

How far reaching were these developments? The **New York Herald Tribune** reported:

"The crushing defeats suffered by Democratic leaders in the Senate and House . . . convinced opposition leaders they had broken the Administration's hold on the 81st Congress in only 72 days." The coalition leaders "were confident they held the power to rewrite all or most of President Truman's 'Fair Deal' program. . . ."

MORNING AFTER. Many believed that the debacle had been foreshadowed on the day after elections, when President Truman declined to whip into line or punish reactionaries in his own party who opposed him.

The **New Republic** (Jan. 17) said: "The Administration has not lifted a finger to 'purge' the dissident Dixiecrats from their place in the party. Nothing has been done about the outworn seniority rules which give disproportionate control of the Congressional committees to the senile and the South."

On a previous Key West vacation in January, President Truman said: "I'm through giving them hell.... From now on we'll work together."

Sen. Wayne Morse (R-Ore.) said last week that the new coalition constitutes a "de facto new political party."

The future was up to the voters. Last week Henry Wallace said: "An aroused and militant people can still compel action. . . . The wrath of an aroused people can yet write civil rights into the law of the land at this session of the Congress."

The First Freedom

IN state legislatures all around the country bills were in the works branding various organizations as subversive, establishing tests of "loyalty" for teachers, students, civil service workers, utility workers and unemployed.

The Maryland House and Senate passed and sent to the Governor the Ober bill, most far-reaching of all. It imposes five years' imprisonment on anybody still a member of a "subversive" organization after next September. Special agencies are to be set up to appraise the subversive qualities of existing Maryland organizations.

The New York State bill outlawing the Communist Party provided that a "subversive" organization "shall not be considered a party." The word "not" was omitted in the final printing. Sponsors rushed the correction.

The New Jersey State Legislature, on the other hand, passed and sent to the Governor a measure which would stiffen existing anti-discrimination legislation, increase the penalty for jimcrow

Continued on following page

Promise and performance

Here are some of the President's promises (in campaign speeches or messages to Congress) and what has been done about them.

DIRTY
DEAL
PARTY

Taft-Hartley

THE PROMISE: "The Taft-Hartley Law is an instrument for union-busting by anti-labor employers. . . . Repeal the Taft-Hartley Act." (Akron, Ohio, Oct. 11.) **THE ACTION:** None. Protracted hearings have been held in the Senate, are in progress in the House.

Housing

THE PROMISE: "Slum clearance, government aid for housing at reasonable prices." (Cleveland, Oct. 26.) "We'll break that housing shortage in spite of the real estate lobby." (Newark, Oct. 7.) **THE ACTION:** None. Bills pending in both houses are totally inadequate.

Prices

THE PROMISE: "The best way to stop it (the rising cost of living) is with price control." (Los Angeles, Sept. 23.) **THE ACTION:** None.

Civil rights

THE PROMISE: "The kind of freedom where . . . every man has an equal chance for a job . . . every American boy and girl has an equal chance to get a good education . . . every citizen has an equal opportunity to go to the ballot box to cast his vote . . . every man, woman and child is free from fear of mob violence and discrimination." (Harlem, Oct. 29.) **THE ACTION:** Capitulation to the Dixiecrats.

Rent control

THE PROMISE: "... it would be unwise to lift living costs again by rent increases. . . Such a course would inflict further hardship upon the families who have already been the prime victims of inflation ..." (Jan. 7, in a message to Congress.) **THE ACTION:** Present inadequate controls scuttled in the House, threatened in the Senate.

Un-American Committee

THE PROMISE: "We are against those who raise the cry of communism to slander and obstruct policies conceived in the people's interests." (Oklahoma City, Sept. 28) **THE ACTION:** The Committee's existence continued with an appropriation of $200,000.

Minimum wages

THE PROMISE: "Raise the minimum wage to at least 75 cents an hour." **THE ACTION:** Hearings have been held in the House, not in the Senate.

Social welfare

THE PROMISE: "National Defense begins at home. It begins with the things that make life worth while for the average industrial worker, for the average farmer, for the average small business man. . . This is the kind of national defense I believe in." (Toledo, Ohio.) **THE ACTION:** $14,268,000,000 for armaments, 40% more than the previous year. About 6% of the budget is allotted to social welfare.

NATIONAL ROUNDUP

Continued from preceding page

practices in hotels, theaters and restaurants. Trenton is the capital of New Jersey.

Medina's guest

THE Federal Court in New York's Foley Square selected a jury to try the case of the 11 Communist Party leaders.

This was the way the jurors were sifted. A clerk of the court spun a wheel and out of it dropped a card. The clerk read the name on it and the prospective juror took one of the red-leather chairs in the jury box. When there were 12 in the box, Judge Harold R. Medina began his questioning. His language was precise, his manner as patient as that of a schoolmaster in a rather backward class.

Among the many questions was this one: "Are you or have you ever been employed by or associated with or have you contributed to the NATIONAL GUARDIAN?"

"QUALIFIED." Questioning over, the lawyers for defense and prosecution huddled at the judge's bench to argue that this one or that be dismissed "for cause." But the Judge disqualified few last week.

Among those he considered well qualified was a man who contributed $1 to the Tool Owners Union, declared to be pro-fascist by the N. Y. State Labor Department.

At each round the defense made three peremptory challenges. The prosecution made one. Then the clerk spun the wheel again and filled up the box for another round.

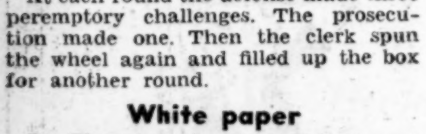
White paper

By Thursday the defense had used up all of 15 challenges allowed to it. The prosecution had used up its six. The jury was up to the judge. This was its final composition:

Negro wife of an orchestra leader; theatrical producer; Negro beautician; unemployed woman clerk; Negro real estate and fur salesman; retired beer salesman and member of the Holy Name Society; unemployed civil engineer, member of the Liberal Party and contributor to Americans for Democratic Action; woman mailing department clerk and licensed insurance agent; wireman and assembler for Bell Telephone, also a member of the American Legion and Communications Workers of America, an unaffiliated union; office worker; two wives of salesmen.

On Thursday afternoon, Eugene Dennis, General Secretary of the Communist Party told the Court: "I believe I can best defend my interests and the interests of my party by acting as my own attorney." Permision was granted. Opening arguments were set for March 21.

The judge was satisfied that as regards communism the mind of each was as blank as a white sheet of paper. He had exhibited such a sheet for all to see.



Tap, tap, tap

ON the night of March 12, Mayor O'Dwyer, Police Commissioner O'Brien, squads of detectives, reporters and photographers swarmed through New York City's Hall. Kenneth Ryan, at various times an employee of the telephone company and a city detective, had confessed to tapping the wires of the Mayor.

All night long the Mayor, with time out for catnaps, questioned the detective. At 7 a.m. the prisoner asked to go to the washroom. While the police guarded the door, he leaped out of the window into City Hall park and escaped. His top coat, hat and car were left behind.

In the cellar of his home police found elaborate wire-tapping equipment and a list of prominent New Yorkers whose conversations presumably were to be investigated. On the list were 75 city officials.

La Guardia's ghost

On March 14, the detective gave himself up. His lawyer explained: "He left City Hall because he wanted to go to church." He was indicted for escaping from custody.

PRIME RYAN. Meanwhile the detective and wire-tap authority had become known in news stories as "the other Ryan." The prime Ryan was Clendennin J. Ryan, one of the principal heirs to the $141,000,000 estate of the late Thomas Fortune Ryan.

Clendennin Ryan had put his money and his services at the disposal of the late Mayor Fiorello La Guardia. Recently he had loudly embarked on a "good government crusade."

The week before he had addressed 11 questions to the Mayor, asking among other things whether the alleged slot-machine king Frank Costello was "the real boss of New York." (Costello said he could't even get a traffic ticket fixed.)

Mayor O'Dwyer dismissed the questions with two words: "Another crackpot."

Then Clendennin Ryan, accompanied by photographers, nailed to the venerable doors of City Hall a photostat copy of a grand jury presentment which had criticized O'Dwyer's record as a district attorney.

HIGH COLOR. Ryan was said to have done his tapping while in the employ of John G. (Big Steve) Broady, attorney for Clendennin Ryan. The 6 foot 3 attorney lent even higher color to the proceedings. His career was featured in newspaper interviews. His wife helped.

Ground glass

"Tell him about the counterfeiters and the time the gangster fed you ground glass," his wife urged. "What about the time you were lynched?" asked a reporter. Broady said: "I was hanged but they cut me down. That was a long time ago in another part of the country."

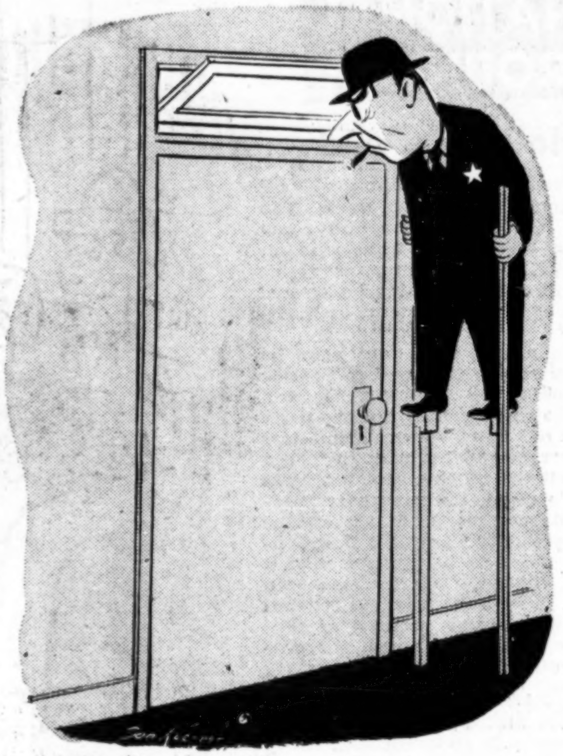
He was called before the grand jury but declined to waive immunity, saying: "I don't want my informants to end up in the river."

The Grand Jury also called both Ryans and the Mayor. At the week end the New York delegation in Congress came to New York to see whether a Congressional investigation of wire tapping was in order.

HOW TO TAP. Detective Ryan was credited with developing the best method of tapping wire: cutting directly into the line and eavesdropping with earphones. A full wire tapping crew, including recorders, requires six men.

Another less expensive but less accurate way is to use an induction coil (price: $7). Magnetize it by sending an electric current, and set it alongside the wire to be tapped. It will pick up candid conversation clearly and directly. The wire may be tapped anywhere along its route.

New York Times City Hall reporter Joseph Ingraham wrote that despite current indications of surprise, for a long time "astute city officials have abandoned use of the telephone for any conversation that even borders on the confidential side."



Protestants speak up

THE study conference of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America adjourned last week. The Cleveland sessions heard marked criticism of the Atlantic Pact from John Foster Dulles, head of the U.S. delegation to the last UN assembly, Republican Party leader and architect of much of current U. S. foreign policy.

The conference stressed the need for careful and prolonged study of the Pact, avoidance of anything which might be interpreted as aggressive action toward Russia, and maintenance or resumption of diplomatic and commercial relations with Communist-held areas of China.

Protestant spokesmen assumed that racial equality, international sharing of physical resources and responsibility of government for the welfare of the people are accepted principles of American life.

Russian delicacy

THE community center of the Congregation B'Nai Jeshurun in New York last week housed the founding session of the "Union for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia." Among the founders was Alexander Kerensky, Russian premier who was forced by the Bolsheviks to flee Russia in 1917. Lt. Anatol Barsov, a flier who deserted the Russian Air Force last fall, said: "Even those who live in Russia itself don't know the real conditions because everything is done in a very delicate way."

White but not Russian

Candidates for the organization were still coming.

Early this month the SS Marine Shark pulled in at New York with 549 displaced persons. Among them and prominently featured in the press were "six White Russian monks" on their way to the Holy Trinity Monastery at Jordanville, N.Y. The reports said that the "White Russian" group comprised a Bulgarian, two Poles, an Estonian and two Yugoslavs. Moreover, one of the Yugoslavs was called Count Alex Grabbe; and that was odd because there never were any counts in Yugoslavia.

Then, too, the flowing hair and long beards traditional with Greek Orthodox monks were somewhat sketchily in evidence. One had no beard at all. The unique Yugoslav count had a particularly undersized growth.

WORRIES OVER. These displaced persons told of having been "forced to fight with the German army during the war and of fleeing afterward from countries now dominated by the Soviet Union."

That was odder still because no foreigner was ever forced to fight with Hitler's army; it accepted them only as a reward for distinguished service to the Nazi cause. Such volunteers were organized into foreign auxiliaries but never into the German army itself.

Whether they were Russians or monks or counts scarcely mattered. After their bitter years of warfare and defeat on the Nazi side, they had fou haven at last.

Miners' holiday

EAST of the Mississippi the miners last week were on a melancholy holiday. They helped their wives with the spring cleaning or they walked the streets. Most applied for unemployment compensation. The indications were that none would get it.

John L. Lewis had given the order to down picks. To a man 471,000 members of the United Mine Workers in the eastern states obeyed. Western miners were exempt because of the bitter winter in the West and the need for coal.

The action was permissible under existing contracts as a memorial stoppage. The miners were to mourn their dead for two weeks. Last year 55,115 miners were killed or injured in the pits.

Responsibility for many of those casualties Lewis laid at the door of Interior Secretary Krug, a man who has often borne the heat and thunder of John L. Also an object of Lewis' eloquent dislike was Krug's appointee Dr. James P. Boyd, director of the Bureau of Mines.

"USURPER." Dr. Boyd has been a dean of the Colorado School of Mines; the owner of a small copper mine in Colorado; an Army colonel advising Ge Lucius Clay on the rehabilitation o German mines. But he has never been down a coal mine in his life, Lewis asserted.

Boyd was named to the post a year

ago, but the Senate has yet to confirm the appointment. He is serving anyway, without pay. Lewis said he had "u[illegible]rped" the office.

Dusty answer

Last week the Senate Interior Committee voted to confirm Boyd's appointment, but the Senate itself postponed action.

It was true that safety conditions in the mines had long been a grievance; true that Boyd had been unpopular. But everywhere observers were seeking other explanations for the stoppage.

GRANDIOSE JOHN L. The **Wall St. Journal** called it "a grandiose John L. Lewis program for the 'stabilization' of the coal industry," and added:

"The ultimate strategic objective, of course, is to preserve the strength of the United Mine Workers. The union can't be strong unless it can be supported by a prosperous coal industry. Mr. Lewis has stepped in because he thinks there simply won't be a prosperous coal industry unless something is done to (1) reduce stockpiles; (2) create a fresh spurt in demand; (3) shore up a price structure that has been wobbling for many weeks."

The paper reported that one coal salesman had to be restrained from sending this telegram to John L. Lewis: "You old so-an-so, why don't you make it a month."

While some mine owners stood to gain, workers had little to lose. Many were working only two or three days a week.

On the railroads

WITH little coal to move and normal traffic dwindling daily, the railroads laid off 70,000 employes for the duration of the stoppage. It swelled an unemployment total already high among railroad men. In recent months the lines have laid off 10% to 15% of their staffs.

To other railroad men came good news. The nation's big lines reduced the work week for 1,000,000 non-operating employes from 48 to 40 hours without loss of pay, and with a raise of seven cents an hour.

The settlement terms had been recommended last December by a three-man Presidential fact-finding committee. Since then the companies had tried to whittle them down in bargaining sessions with the 16 unions involved.

Railroad men have been fighting for a 40-hour week since 1938 when the Fair Labor Standards Act was passed. That act set up the 40-hour week as standard but excluded the railroad workers from its provisions.

Harbor war

WHEN the transport Marine Jumper entered New York harbor last week, a banner made of bed sheets was hung over the side. On it was lettered: "Hands off, Army brass."

The vessel was to be taken over by the Army, according to Presidential decree. The Army, it was announced, would deal with no union nor abide by any union standards. The 143 members of the National Union of Marine Cooks and Stewards (CIO) had voted unanimously to stay aboard and keep the ship a union ship.

The chief mate tried to rip the banner off the side. He turned the fire hose on the men. When the ship tied up, an Army major come on board and ordered all drinking water turned off. Then he left and still the men stayed [illegible]

A famous victory

Soon truckloads of armed men sped down the pier. There were soldiers, agents of the Criminal Investigation Division and police.

Loren Wardwell, 28, an Army veteran, was in a cabin. He heard the CID men say: "We ought to use gas on those bastards."

"NOT A BASTARD." Later he told what happened to him: "I'm not a bastard and I told them so. And I guess they didn't like my answer, because they summoned some more guards, dragged me out of the cabin, tightened my necktie and began to choke me. I was screaming. I asked them to let me walk along. But their only answer was to punch and kick me. . . .

"They ripped my shirt to shreds, pulled me off the ship and hustled me into a truck. A lieutenant colonel and a tech sergeant armed with a tommy gun were waiting for me. When I tried to talk, the sergeant said he'd take care of me personally unless I shut up."

Wardwell was charged with disorderly conduct and released on a suspended sentence.

A spokesman for the Sailors Union of the Pacific (AFL) announced that in view of the unemployment situation on the waterfront his union was advising its members in the Marine Jumper to sign on again under the Army, though they would have to take less pay and loss of all union rights.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Protest

IN Milan armored cars patrolled the streets. U.S. and British consulates everywhere in Italy were under heavy police guard. Carabinieri ringed the parliament buildings in Rome. The deputies were discussing Italy's adherence to the Atlantic Pact.

They had begun the debate on Monday. At 4 p.m. on Wednesday the deputies convened for a final session. Italian parliamentary law gives each deputy the right and the time to explain his vote.

Left Socialists endorsed the Communist deputies' contention that the pact was a prelude to a war which would make Italy a battleground. A number of right-wing Socialists and left Christian Democrats, breaking party discipline, joined in denouncing the Pact. At 5 a.m. on Thursday the weary, disheveled deputies recessed for 15 minutes, then resumed.

JEEP ATTACK. The gallery was filled throughout Wednesday night, and when Premier Alcide de Gasperi summed up for the government he was interrupted by angry shouts from the public benches. As tempers shortened, debate gave way to fist fights.

During the night word came that the U.S. had formally invited Italy into the pact. On Thursday the Roman Chamber of Labor called a one-hour general strike.

When crowds gathered, police drove jeeps at 50 miles an hour right at them. Demonstrators leaped for cover.

Dickering

The **New York Times** Rome correspondent Arnoldo Cortesi wrote:

"Police clubbed demonstrators and bystanders indiscriminately to clear the streets of crowds shouting for peace and against war. . . . The police, who pride themselves on their 'toughness,' were more than usually tough yesterday. This correspondent saw scores of citizens, including several women, beaten mercilessly with police clubs, and one old woman was bleeding profusely from wounds in the head and side of her face."

On Friday the deputies voted 342 to 170 to bring Italy into the Atlantic Pact.

From Iceland Foreign Minister Bjarni Benediktsson came to Washington to discuss his country's adherence to the Pact. He said Iceland would not turn over any bases to foreign powers during peacetime.

Danish Foreign Minister Gustav Rasmussen was on his way back to Copenhagen. In Washington he left behind a list of military equipment Denmark needed. Portuguese officials, too, were conferring with the State Dept. about their country's place in the pact.

On Friday the details of the pact were published. As predicted by Secretary of State Dean Acheson it contained few surprises: the trial balloons had been numerous; the leaks authoritative. (See Atlantic Pact story, page 3.)

AS IT DEEMS NECESSARY. In the pact the signatories agreed that an attack against one shall be considered an attack against all, and in that event each party to the agreement should take "forthwith, individually and in concert with the other parties, such action as it deems necessary, including the use of armed force, to restore and maintain the security of the North Atlantic area."

The area of possible incidents was made world-wide. The pact would be invoked if an attack were made "on any of the parties in Europe or North America, on the Algerian Departments of France, on the occupation forces of any party in Europe, and the islands under the jurisdiction of any party in

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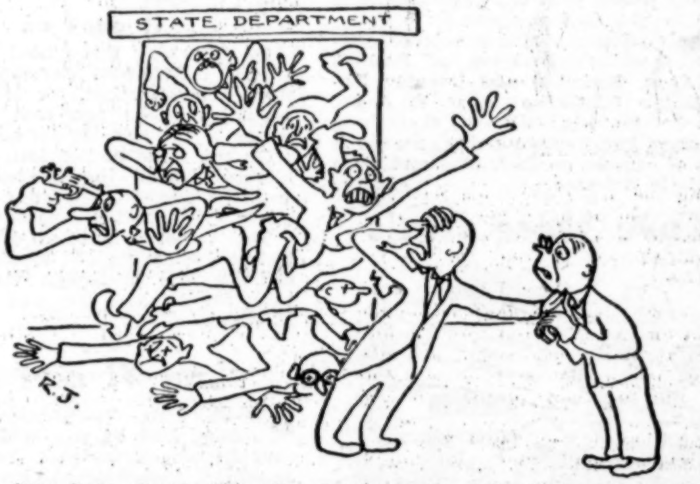


"My God! Russia has offered to sign the Atlantic Pact!"

Max Werner

England: an impotent partner in the Atlantic Pact

ENGLAND is second in strength among the North Atlantic powers. Yet its Labor Government plans only very limited British participation in the Atlantic Pact.

All signs indicate the Conservative Party will be defeated in the elections of 1950, and Winston Churchill will continue to write his brilliant war memoirs undisturbed.

The Labor Government simply cannot afford a massive rearmament. It cannot solve the alternative of guns or butter in favor of guns. It stands or falls with the priority given to social welfare and economic planning.

The British military machine lags behind the demands of the Atlantic Pact, but the Labor Government cannot expand it.

NO STRIKING POWER. With this limitation of British strength no real British commitments on the European continent are possible. As things are, and for the foreseeable future, a deployment of British land forces and even of the RAF on the continent is out of the question. Some British air experts believe that the RAF is today numerically weaker than in September 1940.

Fieldmarshal Montgomery, now titular head of the Western Union's military machinery, spoke recently of building sufficient offensive strength in Western Europe. Yet Britain's leading air experts do not share his buoyant optimism. With facts and figures they prove that Britain's main military problem is not land offensive, and not even the defense of the Rhine line, but the air defense of the British Isles.

CRUMBLING CLIFFS. Military experts disagree among themselves as vehemently in Great Britain as they do in the United States. But while here the ways of building offensive power are being discussed, the British debate is concerned with the chances of air defense.

Prevailing is the opinion that no effective air defense system at all can be installed in the British Isles. The brilliant Wing Commander J. B. Tait has exposed these facts with these startling words in the **Royal Air Force Quarterly:**

> *The United Kingdom could not be defended by any system based on the English Channel and the North Sea. The United Kingdom will not in the future be able to stand behind the defense line on the cliffs of Dover, which has been held for centuries, first by the Royal Navy and then by the Fighter Command.*

The British air experts, in other words, are afraid that a second Battle of Britain cannot be won. Since they know the risks, the North Atlantic Pact cannot offer them too much of a promise.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Continued from preceding page

the North Atlantic area north of the Tropic of Cancer or on the vessels or aircraft in this area of any of the parties."

They ate well

FRANCE, already committed to the Pact although not without some misgivings, was in the throes of an election campaign. Balloting for cantonal officials, always a significant straw, was to begin on Sunday.

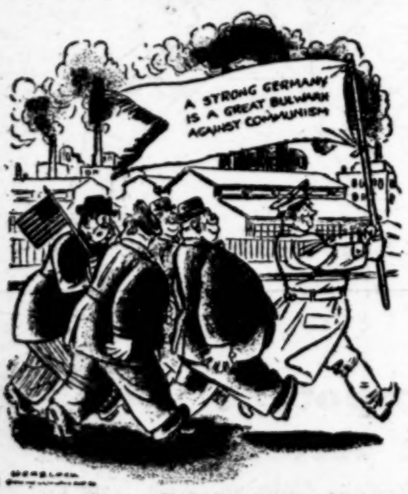
In the Chamber of Deputies Premier Henri Queuille had his hands full. He had concluded an agreement on Indo-China with Bao Dai, Emperor of Annam. The signature of the Emperor, currently residing on the Riviera, seemed unlikely to mean much to many Indo-Chinese.

GOOD LUNCH. Before the matter came to the floor of the Chamber the Premier had been observed in affable luncheon conversation with Socialist Party leaders. The Socialists had hitherto advocated negotiating with the resistance forces under Ho Chi Minh. It seemed difficult for them to do anything else but oppose the government of Bao Dai.

Last week the Premier's luncheon diplomacy was seen to be effective. A motion was made to postpone discussion of the matter to Nov. 9. The Socialists joined with the government to vote for the postponement.

The Gaullists moved a vote of censure. Queuille's coalition of Radical Socialists, Socialists and Popular Republicans (Catholics) beat it down. The Communists, following their long standing Far Eastern policy, moved a vote of censure on their own and were similarly defeated.

Love those Nazis


A STRONG GERMANY IS A GREAT BULWARK AGAINST COMMUNISM

Herblock, Washington Post

"Who's the odd-looking guy carrying the banner?"

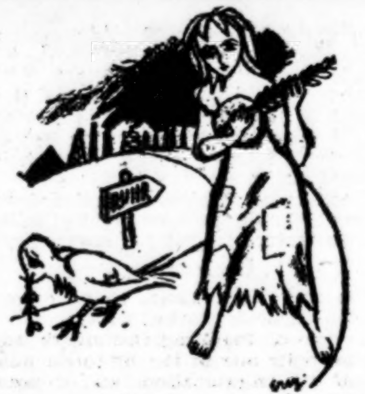
TO at least eight Germans last week defeat seemed endurable. The eight were named by Anglo-American occupation authorities to be trustees of the steel industry in the Ruhr. Among them were: Karl Barich, former director of the Rhine-Westphalian Electrical Works, originally slated for decartelization; Dr. Guenther Henle, 13 years a director of the Kloeckner Steel Works; and Herbert Monden, former engineer of the Hermann Goering Works and deputy chairman of the Iron and Steel Assn., an employers' group.

One trade union official was nominated: Heinrich Meier.

The candidates were culled from a list submitted by the German Economic Administration. Trade union representatives refused to support any part of the slate, pointing out that if these men were not the top brass of Nazi industry they had served as valuable lieutenants.

Along with the Germans there were to be British and American representatives. Americans suggested by the German economic advisers were: William Brinckerhoff, Werner P. Newmann, Ronald Clark and F. L. Elliot, all of U.S. Steel; and Frederick M. Dillies of Inland Steel.

TALENT HUNT. The directors are to run the Ruhr until final ownership of the steel mills and mines is determined. It had been suggested by anti-Nazis that if the Ruhr were not nationalized at least the appointed directors ought to be men of clear anti-Nazi record.



Action, Paris

How green was my valley.

Gen. Lucius D. Clay, commander of U.S. occupation forces, said that was impossible because he wanted "men who know their business. . . When an order is given to exclude on the grounds that a man during the 13 years that Hitler was in power, made money, then everyone with talent and experience is excluded."

It goes on

On Thursday throughout the countryside of Western Germany farmers flocked to churches, for it had been predicted weeks ago that March 17 would be the last day for all mankind.

On the night of the 16th a howling blizzard lashed the Bayrische Wald, and the forecast seemed accurate to many. Priests failed to calm the people.

The rumor originated with an astrologer whom no one seemed able to identify. His prediction was premature; St. Patrick's Day was celebrated as usual.

Lan Yi and Ho

DURING the war a Chinese girl named Lan Yi was said to be on very friendly terms with the man the Japanese installed as President of China, Chen Kung-po. In the course of her wartime activity she acquired 84 drums of dyes.

When the war was over the government of China labeled the dyes "puppet property" and auctioned them off. The fortunes of peace turned for Lan Yi when yet another close friend of hers, Dr. Sun Fo, became premier. He tried to recover the dyes and when that proved impossible ordered the Central Trust of China to pay Miss Lan $650,000 in American money.

Ten days ago Sun Fo retired and last week he was indicted for fraudulently paying Lan Yi for her 84 drums of dyes.

HO HUM. President Li Tsung-jen seemed not displeased, for he and Sun Fo had never seen eye to eye. It was hoped that the President might select a premier more likely to be acceptable to the Communists as a peace negotiator. President Li chose Gen. Ho Ying-chin.

Gen. Ho had been Chiang Kai-shek's protege since 1935. In that year he signed an agreement with the Japanese that turned over much of North China to them. In the following year the young Marshall Chang Hsueh-liang held Chiang Kai-shek in Sian to persuade him to fight the Japanese instead of the Communists. Gen. Ho on that occasion manifested his devotion to the Generalissimo by sending land and air forces to Sian prepared to bomb the city, Chiang and all, rather than let his chief go easy on the Communists. As Minister of War in 1940 he was suspected of having dispatched the New 4th Army into an ambush in which 4,000 were killed.

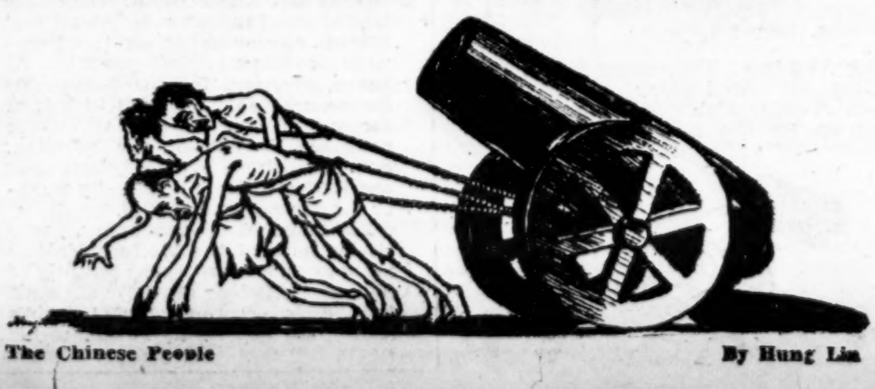
Likes a good time

During the war, while Chiang Kai-shek banked heavily on the Allies, Gen. Ho bet on the Axis. Gen. Joseph Stilwell spoke bitterly of Ho's "sit-the-war-out" strategy. And Gen. Ho was instrumental in the subsequent removal of Gen. Stilwell from China.

Ho was in the U.S. only last year as China's representative on the UN Military Staff Committee. He attended a two-week house party of Moral Rearmament (Oxford Group) and announced his satisfaction with the U. S., house parties and MRA.

The Communists rank Ho high on their list of war criminals.

Last week Gen. Ho tried unsuccessfully to piece together a cabinet. From behind his lines came word of uprisings in the southern provinces of Yunan and Kwangtung. The manufacturing center of Swatow was said to be threatened. And the People's Army stayed poised on the north bank of the Yang-tse.

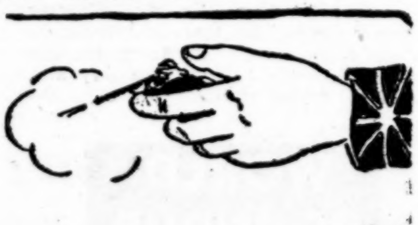


The Chinese People By Hung Lin

Aqaba flurry

ISRAELI troops continued to hold the five-mile strip of Elath on the Gulf of Aqaba, near the Transjordanian border. The strip had been granted to Israel under UN partition terms but when the Israelis took possession of it a week ago it caused a flurry of excitement.

The British rushed troops to Aqaba on the Transjordan side and announced that they would stand by in the event of invasion. Ralph Bunche, UN mediator at Rhodes, called the British troop movement a violation of the truce. Meanwhile, Transjordan's negotiators at Rhodes seemed untroubled by the excitement and, along with the Israelis, made good progress in armistice negotiations.



Haganah Speaks

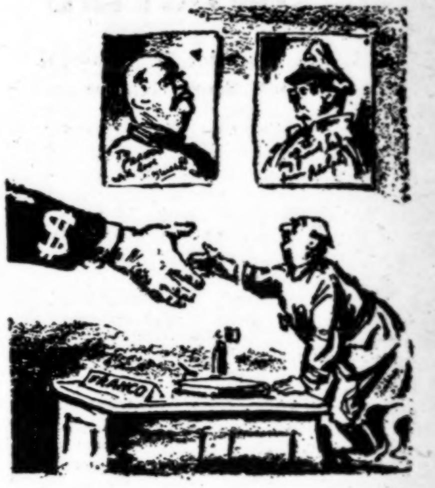
The outstretched hand

Spanish idyll

THE door was opened a little wider last week for Generalissimo Franco to join the "western democracies." Assistant Secretary of State Dean Rusk announced that the U.S. for a long time had felt "misgivings" about the UN resolution of 1946 which called on all UN powers to withdraw their ambassadors from Madrid. Rusk said the U. S. "does not believe Spain is a threat to the peace."

Franco tried to look his best while he waited in the anteroom. In the travel section of the **New York Herald Tribune**, Spain took large ads appealing for tourists and trade. Spain, the ads said, had not only beauty and profits to offer Americans; it was also a "bulwark against communism."

IN THE SHADOW. On the other side of the Spanish ledger was the certainty that Spanish economy faced bankruptcy this year or next. And from the clandestine radio station, Espana Independiente, last week came the words: "In the shadow, under terror, risking life day after day, the heroes of our time, the Communists and their collaborators are preparing the people ...so that factories, mines, working-class districts, fields and mountains—wherever the working people live, suffer and toil—will become strongholds for the conquest of the Republic, bases for the democratic, non-uniformed army which will defeat the Franco tyranny."



Hoy, Havana

Burma's road

BURMA runs like a wedge deep into China on one side, India on the other. It is fabulously rich. Its rice feeds many of India's poor, for Burma's paddies are more fertile. Its forests are filled with teak; its mines with tin, silver, lead, tungsten, zinc and copper. It has oil, too.

Almost all of Burma's wealth is owned by five British companies: Steel Brothers & Co., The Anglo-Burma Tin Co., the Burma Oil Co., Mawchi Mines Ltd., and the Irawaddy Flotilla Co.

On Oct. 17, 1947, the British recognized the independence of Burma. Sir Stafford Cripps said at the time: "We can all feel pride . . . in the example of peaceful transition which it sets to a troubled world." The companies that own Burma remained in possession.

PRICE OF LIBERTY. Burma's price for liberty was to assume a debt of 100,000,000 pounds to Britain and India, and to promise "fair compensation" for any property nationalized. The treaty also provided that only the British could train the Burmese army and that the military mission left in Rangoon must be maintained at the expense of the Burmese.

Autonomous state

Most numerous and most backward of the tribes in Burma's hills are the Karens. They number about 4,000,000. The British went into the hills, converted the Karens to Christianity and drafted them into the army. They are said to be still under British control.

Last week the Karens swept through Mandalay and, according to the newspaper, **Voice of the Peacock**, roared on through the countryside. In Rangoon the government of right-wing socialist Premier Thakin Nu yielded and granted the Karens an autonomous state.

"GIRL A'SITTING." After the Karens may come other tribes demanding autonomy, and Burma may soon be a conglomeration of tiny states, each powerless.

Meanwhile Thakin Nu has postponed nationalization of British concerns, outlawed the Communists and written articles on the "communist danger in Burma."

The **New York Herald Tribune**, commenting on the fact that every political movement in Burma except that of the Karens claims to be Marxist, did not think the trend would last. The editorial asked, "What Burma girl would sit and think of a commissar?"

Throughout the turmoil the five British companies remain in possession.

THE NATION

The AVC story

It's not quite suicide

By Chandler H. Whipple and Robert Carse

(The authors of the following article joined the Greenwich Village (N.Y.) Chapter of the American Veterans Committee early in its existence. They have both served as officers of the chapter and have been delegates at national conventions.)

USING self-administered variants of the political hammerlock, the American Veterans Committee has in the space of a very few years succeeded in all but strangling itself to death.

The organization was created in the latter stage of World War II by Gil Harrison and Charles E. Bolte with the blessing of Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt. Its slogan, "Citizens First, Veterans Second," caught the imagination of veterans who were cold to the attractions of the American Legion. Active trade unionists and professional men joined in large numbers.

Both leadership and rank-and-file were originally in favor of an international veterans' organization working for one world through the United Nations. They were against UMT; they were also against the Truman Doctrine of unilateral U. S. action.

RED FOG. Within about two years, AVC had reached a membership total of over 100,000. Then the snake-charmers among the leadership began to be bitten by their own reptiles, and to infect others.

A red fog slowly settled over the outfit. Anybody who opposed the wishes and directives of either national or local chapter officers was at once labeled "Commie." The blitz was on, and it has never since stopped.

Charles E. Bolte resigned from the national chairmanship at about this time and took shelter in a Rhodes scholarship.

The AVC throne started to wobble with his departure. But a newcomer in veterans' affairs, David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, became interested in AVC. He put a nimble young veteran named Gus Tyler, ILGWU's political education director, into the organization. Tyler has done his best to bring his—if not Dubinsky's—political ideas into AVC and is now a member of the National Planning Committee.

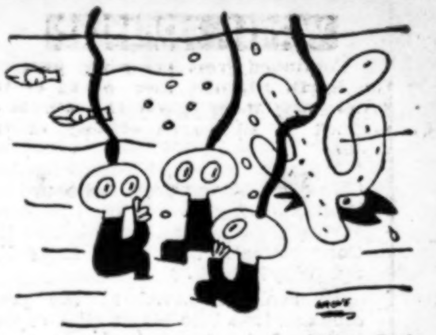
HYSTERIA. Results of all this became manifest in sweeping anti-communist resolutions; in weakening AVC's fight against military training and unilateral foreign-policy actions.

Where AVC had originally opposed the Truman Doctrine, on the basis that aid to Greece should be given solely for rehabilitation purposes and handled through UN, no such objections were made to the Marshall Plan. Even the housing program was nearly forgotten as the "Throw the Reds Out" campaign progressed.

Hysteria mounted. John Gates, editor of the **Daily Worker**, a man with an excellent record in both the U. S. and Spanish Republican armies, was thrown out. Morris Pottish, member of the National Planning Committee and admittedly one of the brightest members of the organization, was thrown out. The New York Area Council, composed in the main of chapters which dared to stand up to the national hierarchy's dictatorship was suspended. Chapters were disfranchised **en bloc.**

With the growing influence of the ILGWU chieftain, a strange similarity was found between AVC's top level thought and the N.Y. State Liberal Party and ADA ("Americans for Democratic Anguish," as some have dubbed it).

REUTHER'S MUSHROOM. Pay-off time was the national convention at Cleveland last November. Membership had dropped to 27,000, maybe lower. But the new leaders were fortified by such dubious votes as that supplied by a Detroit United Auto Workers chapter which mushroomed, with the benign aid of Walter Reuther, from a membership of 35 to 610 in a few weeks.



Action, Paris

". . . Hush, beware of the red perch!"

Overboard went the AVC position against the draft. Official backing was given to the "North Atlantic Alliance." The incoming national committee was instructed to "clean out and keep out communists."

Progressives fought back and received 40-45% of the vote cast, more than at any previous convention.

NO SURRENDER. The new national committee is a hard-bitten collection of full-time union employees (ILGWU, UAW, Upholsterers, Office Employees), ADA liberals, and other whose distinguishing mask is psychopatic "anti-communism."

The future of AVC no man can tell. Obviously Reuther and Dubinsky have plans for it as their veteran "front," counting on eventual mass disillusionment with the American Legion as veteran problems increase.

But the progressive vote at Cleveland is a sign that AVC is no pushover for them.

Large numbers of AVC members are determined that the organization shall yet play its part in the fight against the "American Century," and in behalf of the millions of veterans who have had enough of war and who want a peaceful, abundant future.

Melish hearing is set

LAST week nine vestrymen of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity in Brooklyn, N. Y., had a court order preventing their removal, after parishioners had voted overwhelmingly, to oust them and keep in office their pastor for the past 45 years, Rev. John Howard Melish.

A hearing on the order was set for March 24.

The nine vestrymen earlier had acted to remove Dr. Melish because he had refused to condemn his son and assistant rector, William Howard Melish, who was also chairman of the National Council for American-Soviet Friendship.

The parishioners opposed both the vestrymen and their bishop when they went on record for retention of Dr. Melish and his son.

ON Thursday the younger Melish announced his resignation of the American-Soviet Friendship Council chairmanship, but retained his membership on the Board of Directors.

"The same grave questions that concern the public at large agitate the Church itself," he said in announcing his resignation. "Although there are many signs that Church leadership is throwing off its lethargy, and is now seeking to contribute to American-Soviet understanding for the sake of peace, the same struggle goes on within the Church as outside. As a clergyman, I have had and now have a peculiar responsibility to face this phenomenon."

But in remaining on the board of the Council, he said: "It is my intention to contribute faithfully all that I can to the work of the Council, in our common task of creating better understanding between the two pivotal nations of our contemporary world."

The Trenton 'confession'

FROM the trial record of the Trenton case: defendant Ralph Cooper is being questioned about his "confession." He told how he had been given lunch in Police Captain Delate's office—

A. The only thing I know I remember smoking a cigarette and the cigarette made me feel very sleepish, drunkish, so I don't know what happened after that.

Later he testified on this point again:

Q. And after eating the sandwiches and drinking the coffee, you say you don't recall completing that document?

A. No, sir.

Q. Then what happened to you after that?

A. After I drink the coffee and smoke the cigarette, about 10 or 15 minutes I started to feeling right sleepy.

Central intelligence

They don't want any publicity

By John B. Stone

A MOST unusual Federal agency has grown into a position of dominating importance in its two brief years of existence. Its authority reaches into every kind of domestic activity and into almost every country on earth.

Its work may have more bearing on your life and on the lives of your children than any other governmental activity—because one of its main concerns is the undermining of the governments of the Soviet Union and other Eastern European states.

This agency is the Central Intelligence Agency, created by the National Security Act of 1947. It has official headquarters at 2430 E St., Washington, and unofficial headquarters in a secret niche in the Pentagon.

NOBODY KNOWS. Despite the importance of the CIA, you cannot find out how many millions of dollars of your money it spends; what its agents do behind the newspaper curtain; what they do in your union, your lodge, your business association.

Hours of searching through thousands of pages in the 1948, 1949 and 1950 budgets failed to yield any explanation of the CIA or its funds. Your correspondent turned to an official spokesman of the Bureau of the Budget and this is what he was told:

Drawing by Koerner

"You won't find it in a thousand years of searching. It has been hidden so no one can find it. It is handled like atomic energy appropriations were handled during the war."

HUSH, HUSH, HUSH. What can be ascertained is that the hush-hush super-spy bill, recently passed by the House with only four dissenting votes, merely legalizes already existing activities of the CIA. The agency can spend funds appropriated to other departments without accounting for these funds except by certificate of necessity to the President. It can bring spies in from other countries without regard for immigration quotas.

The official personnel of CIA is listed as follows: Director of Central Intelligence, Rear Adm. R. H. Hillenkoetter, USN; Deputy Director, Brig. Gen. E. K. Wright, USA; Executive Director, Capt. Walter C. Ford, USN. Nowhere in public documents can any other personnel be found, although one encounters secretaries and telephone operators.

To a direct query from the GUARDIAN about the functions of his agency, Adm. Hillenkoetter said:

"We don't want any publicity. You can find out from the National Security Act of 1947 what we do. It's three things: first, advise the National Security Council about intelligence activities of the Government; second, correlate intelligence activities of the Government; and third, perform other functions of intelligence as the Council and the President may determine.

"I have promised that if I give a story it will be to all the papers at once. And I hope when that time comes I am not here."

Why their faces light up when they see Marc

By Sally Heisler

HE was a journalism student with an Assignment. He challenged me: "Why do their faces light up? I've been stopping people on the streets, asking them what they think of their Congressman, and their faces light up. Why?"

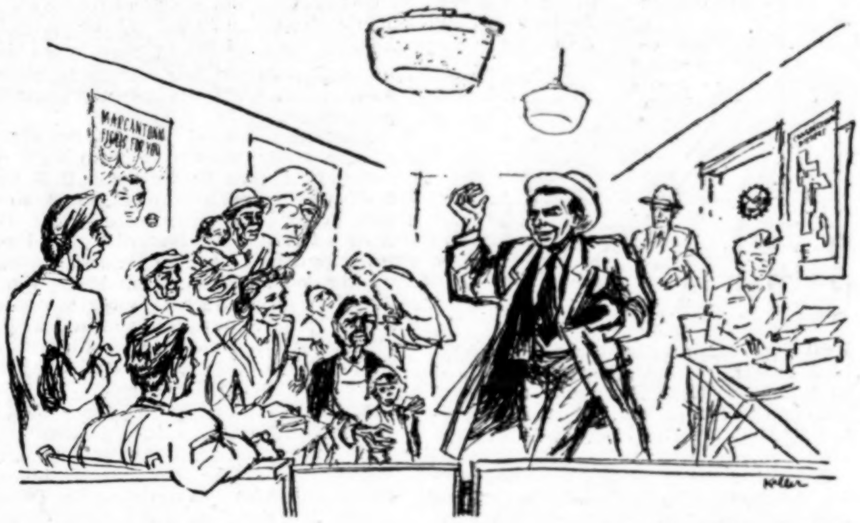
In reply I waved at the people crowded into Vito Marcantonio's waiting room. It's the size of a dance hall but there's no room for dancing. Too many people with too many troubles. "In a nutshell," I said, "he gives 'em service."

SALVATORE. People don't fit a nutshell, though. Not Salvatore, who needs to talk but can't find anyone to listen. So Salvatore comes to his Congressman. He waits his turn. He gets to my desk, sits up straight as a dagger and announces: "Young lady, I'm a human being."

Salvatore is compelled to notify somebody that he's a human being. Salvatore doesn't need a job or home relief or a place to live. He knows a congressman can't get you a wife or cure you of lonesomeness. He informs me: "Young lady, Italian is the language of the masters."

Salvatore comes in to soak himself in a warm bath of people—people with real problems. A few are well-off, with rich problems like television trouble with the landlord. Mostly, they're people who have learned firsthand how to knock down a speeding cockroach with precision.

They are the Waiting People. They're always waiting—in home relief bureaus, employment agencies, public clinics. Usually, they present a defensive front to the world. But in their Congressman's waiting room they talk the way they feel.



Drawing by Charles Keller

THE PHILOSOPHER. Here Salvatore has an established reputation as thinker and philosopher. It grew out of an argument. A little red-haired woman yelled at her upstairs neighbor: "My ceiling is leaking! Stop taking so many baths, you dirty Bulgarian whore!"

Salvatore at once leaped up roaring: "Unfair! Unfair to bring nationalities into this question!" He then proceeded to deliver a lecture pointing out the errors in the redhead's social grammar.

NORAH'S NEIGHBOR. Then there's Nora—an apple-cheeked honey. For years Nora lived with a sewer stink in her basement flat. Her landlord steadfastly ignored her complaints. When the situation overcame even her stoic patience, Nora trudged up her Congressman's stairs.

Marcantonio waved his magic wand, the landlord hired a plumber, and Nora had a revelation: her Congressman was a worker of miracles.

So back she came, this time about her neighbor. All week long polite as pie, this lovely gentleman is transformed each and every Saturday night into a lousy drunken bum; whereupon he bangs upon her walls and yells obscene imprecations at her. She says: "Congressman, make him stop calling me names on Saturday night."

ENOUGH BREAD. Mrs. B's situation won't fit a nutshell, either. Problem: her janitor adamantly refuses to fix her oven. The landlord, naturally, won't do anything for anybody. But this janitor is the tenant's darling—he loves to fix. Why discriminate against Mrs. B, eldest tenant in the building? The janitor explains fiercely: "She's too old to bake bread! Her big fat slob of a son could eat storebread. Like hell I'll fix her oven. She's been baking all her life. Enough baking!"

Baking, a major occupation in Marcantonio's district, creates a problem all by itself. The fact is, although Harlem and Yorkville are inhabited by the most dazzling cooks in the universe, their representative has a delicate stomach. He can't cope with the home-cooked dishes of all nations bestowed upon him by his loving constituents.

The Aga Khan hasn't enough rubies to pay for the skill, to say nothing of the love, that goes into this "cooking for the Congressman."

HOT AND COLD. One afternoon a beaming housewife carried in a huge slab of strawberry shortcake at the very moment that another constituent held forth a steaming-hot pizza pie. The dialogue was simultaneous: "Please give him while it's nice and cold!" and "Please give him while it's nice and hot!"

Every time the Congressman passes through the waiting room to reach his office, an accolade of whispers floats after him: "That's him, that's Marc, that's our boy!" And their faces light up.

New York is the Mecca March 25-27

Cultural conference for peace

AMERICAN intellectuals, joined by fraternal representatives from Europe, Asia and Latin America, will seek ways to help prevent World War III at a three-day Cultural and Scientific Conference for World Peace in New York, March 25-27.

Panel discussions, participated in by cultural leaders in all fields, will be based on the question: "How can we help, what can we do—we the artists, scientists and professionals in America?"

A welcome dinner to the international guests will be given in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria on Friday, March 25, at 7 p.m. Foreign visitors will include J. D. Bernal, member of the British Commission on Atomic Energy, 1947; Mme. Eugenie Cotton, director of research of the National Scientific Research Center of France; N. Gangulee, leading economist of India; Carlo Levi, Italian author of **Christ Stopped at Eboli**; and Dmitri Shostakovich, Soviet composer.

KEYNOTE SESSION. Reservations for the dinner ($10 a plate) may be made by writing to Cultural and Scientific Conference for World Peace, Waldorf-Astoria, N. Y.

The conference's keynote session will be held Saturday, March 26, at 10 a.m. in Carnegie Hall under the chairmanship of Harlow Shapley, Harvard astronomer and head of the National Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions. Speakers at the keynote session will be T. O. Thackrey, editor and publisher of the **New York Post**; O. John Rogge, former U.S. Assistant Attorney General; and the Rt. Rev. Arthur W. Moulton, retired Bishop of Utah.

Panel discussions will be held in the Waldorf-Astoria on Saturday afternoon and evening. From 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. separate sessions will be devoted to Writing and Publishing; Education; Religion and Ethics; Economic and Social Sciences; Film, Press and Radio; and the Building Industries. Another session on the Natural Sciences will be held from 8 to 11 p.m. Henry Wallace will speak at this session.

PEACE PROGRAM. Panel sessions on Physical and Mental Health will be conducted Sunday morning, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sunday afternoon from 1:30 to 5:30 will be devoted to a plenary session. The conference will end with the adoption of a peace program for the U. S. which will be formulated on the basis of the panel discussions.

There will be no organizational representation at the conference: any interested individual may attend as a delegate and participate in the discussions.

Registration of delegates (the fee is $3) will be Friday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. at the Waldorf-Astoria, Astor Gallery Landing, 3d floor. On Saturday registration hours at the same place will be 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

All those wishing to attend are urged to make their reservations as early as possible because of limited space.

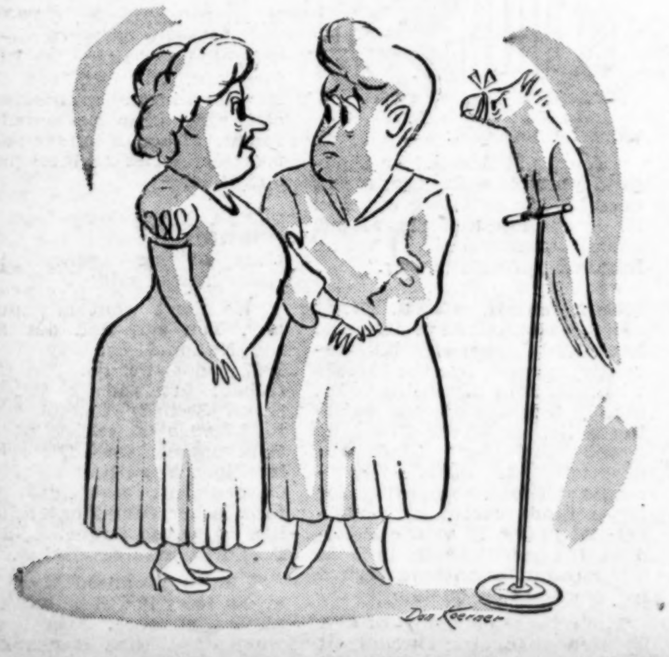
DR. HARLOW SHAPLEY

Garden rally

The cultural conference will come to a climax with a "United for World Peace" meeting at Madison Sq Garden Sunday evening.

Among those present will be Dmitri Shostakovich, Abbe Jean Boulier, French professor of international law, Dr. Shapley and other world famous artists and scientists.

Tickets are on sale at National Council of the Arts, Sciences and Professions headquarters, 49 W. 44 St., New York.



"He speaks only Russian, and an FBI agent lives next door."

Looks good for Friedel

By Monica Pearson

LONDON

THE romance of the ex-G.I., James C. Bilotta, of Lawrence, Mass., and Friedel Rosenthal, the girl he rescued from a Nazi concentration camp, has advanced one stage nearer a happy ending.

For two years Bilotta had tried in vain to get a visa for his fiancee to enter the U. S. When he received word that she was seriously ill in England, and that the doctor attending her had expressed the view that Bilotta's presence was essential to her recovery, he flew the Atlantic and married her by special license on his arrival.

Since then the Bilottas have visited the American Consulate in London, where Friedel has undergone the medical test required of all potential immigrants. Moreover they were told that as the German quota had not yet been taken up the prospects of admission appeared good.

It will be some weeks before the formalities can be completed, and in the meantime James Bilotta will have to obtain a permit to undertake temporary work to keep himself and his wife.

Readers of **Reynolds News**, London, which published the Bilotta story, [GUARDIAN carried it last week] have sent messages of sympathy and goodwill from all parts of the country. Many sent gifts to tide the couple over.

• Round the Nation with the Guardian By-liners •

Illinois

School war on jimcrow

EAST ST. LOUIS

TO cut "through the maze of petty and corrupt politics and [present] the true issues before all East St. Louis, especially in matters concerning the school system," the Non-Partisan Interracial Committee was formed here recently.

As its first project, the committee is supporting Mrs. Addie Yates McDaniel for election to the Board of Education. Mrs. McDaniel, a Negro mother and former school teacher, now operates a private kindergarden. She is the only candidate campaigning against segregated schools in the city.

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Dist. of Columbia

18 down — 85 to go

By Washington Observer

WASHINGTON, D.C.

ACTING on orders from the Interior Dept., the District of Columbia Recreation Board has voted to end segregation on 18 local tennis courts. All but two of these had previously been considered "white."

Some 85 additional courts, on land owned by the District or assigned to the Recreation Board, continue segregated, in spite of Interior Secretary Krug's order that the courts be opened on a "first come, first served" basis without regard to race.

The Interior Dept. has appealed to Attorney General Clark for a ruling which would put these under its control.

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Michigan

Hurray for osteopaths!

By John J. O'Neil

BAY CITY

THE diphtheria outbreak here (GUARDIAN, Feb. 7) occurred because local doctors ignored the pleas of a responsible county health director for the free inoculation of school children.

After many innocents were buried, the labor unions went into action. Committees were appointed to visit every city councilman at his home, to let him know that labor support in the spring elections would depend upon immediate action on free inoculations. The majority of councilmen fell in line.

NEW ALLIES. But when the committees met with the doctors, that was a different story. Spokesmen for the county medical societies drew vivid pictures of soulless, inefficient socialized medicine. They suggested a "voluntary plan" more in harmony with "American principles."

In the midst of all this, unexpected allies were found. The city's osteopaths denounced the "voluntary plan" as AMA politics and nothing more.

Result? We now have free inoculation of school children, and the prestige of the osteopaths among local union people is high.

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New Mexico

FEPC drama — happy end

By R. L. Chambers

SANTA FE

FOR 55 days of the New Mexican Legislature's 60-day session, the men and women battling for passage of an FEPC bill (GUARDIAN, March 7) got the brushoff from most of the lawmakers.

On the 55th day, a lobbyist with a conscience took a few leaders of the FEPC movement aside and told them how it was done.

The next day legislators were bombarded with telegrams demanding that FEPC be passed—or else. Grass roots committees called on their legislators.

RED CIRCLE. One of Santa Fe's newspapers condemned the committee that pigeon-holed the bill with the intention of killing it. The New Mexican Council on Human Relations placed the article on each legislator's desk with a red circle around the names of those who wanted to kill FEPC.

Five days later—the final day of the session—the bill came up for a vote. The galleries were packed and tense.

Finally, came the roll call. It was close to the last. John Burns of Las Vegas voted "yes" and FEPC won—25 to 24.

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California

Who was Duke Bolger?

By Louise Harding Horr

BRISBANE

STATE Attorney-General Howser recently "fired" C. E. Wylie, a civil service employee whose job for the last year was to run around the state collecting "good will" for Howser. (If he collected anything else, it wasn't mentioned.) Howser charged Wylie had been spilling confidential information.

Testifying before the State Personnel Board on a plea of reinstatement, Wylie said that at a conference in the Howser home last year, Mrs. Howser had told her husband:

"Duke Bolger is attorney-general and he is getting rich and you're getting hardly any-anything." (**San Francisco News, Jan. 26**).

MONEY? HORRORS! The next day the remark, as quoted by the **San Francisco Chronicle**, was changed to read: "Fred, Duke Bolger is attorney-general and you're not." All mention of money had been removed.

Who was Duke Bolger? At the time of his death in San Francisco last year, when the Howser group attracted considerable attention by their concern, the press said Bolger had been a big-time gambler.

The **News** and **Chronicle** reports of the Wylie incident a year later call Bolger "a prominent political figure in Southern California." The rest is hushed up.

Seems there's a big stir in California just now about unrestrained gambling—and several Howser employes have been abruptly "separated" from their jobs.

CHICAGO DATELINE

Jobless rolls grow

By Rod Holmgren

CHICAGO

UNEMPLOYMENT is steadily growing in Illinois, with Negroes hardest hit. Relief rolls are increasing. These facts emerge from a report by the State Employment Service:

- Unemployment rose from 101,000 on Nov. 15, 1948, to 175,000 Jan. 15, 1949—a 73% increase in two months.
- In Chicago alone, more than 20,000 retail workers and 23,000 factory workers got pink slips in the same period.
- Unemployment almost doubled in the Peoria-Pekin area. Increases were also sharp in Danville, Joliet and East St. Louis.
- An Unemployment Compensation Commission report indicates layoffs continued after Jan. 15. In the week ending March 5, 8,226 more workers registered for jobless benefits than in the preceding week. This is attributed to layoffs in meat packing in Chicago, plumbing fixture manufacture in Decatur, furniture making in Galesburg, watch-case making in Elgin.

THE HARDEST HIT. 38,000 Negroes were jobless in Illinois on Jan. 15, an increase of 90% in Negro unemployment in two months. Negroes make up 22% of the state's jobless, 5% of the state's population.

Steel mills in South Chicago have almost stopped hiring Negroes, although many gangs were 100% Negro until layoffs began this winter.

The Illinois Progressive Party this week made the following proposals for legislative action:

- Increase jobless insurance benefits and extend coverage.
- Boost general relief allotments and speed processing of unemployment insurance and relief applications.
- Begin a comprehensive system of needed public work.

Lively FM station

CHICAGO'S newest FM station, WMOR, went on the air Monday with 40,000 watts power on 102.7 megs. For the first month, it will be on the air 12 hours a day—4½ devoted to symphonic music.

WMOR will carry several popular BBC features: "World Theatre," a weekly two-hour play, the London, Liverpool and BBC Philharmonic orchestras, and half-hour excerpts from famous British movies.

Studs Terkel, Chicago's folksiest disc jockey, will resume his "Wax Museum" on the new station. This writer will offer a daily commentary, and **Chicago Sun-Times** columnist K. M. Landis III will be heard Sundays. Three-fourths of the stockholders are veterans, many of them members of the AVC.

38th firetrap death

JESSE GONZALES, Chicago's 38th firetrap victim for 1949, was lowered to the grave this week. The day of his burial, attorneys for Chicago's best-known firetrap operator, Gus Hussos, persuaded Municipal Judge Charles Dougherty to cut $1,600 in building code violation fines down to $400.

Last month, Mayor Kennelly ordered a crackdown on firetrap landlords. Building Commissioner Christiansen urged the City Council to draft a bill for submission to the Illinois Assembly providing jail sentences for operators of firetrap dwellings who fail to comply with the city code.

LET 'EM BURN. Gonzales was killed and 11 others injured in an recommended a basement ceiling of lath and plaster in the hotel to cut off any blaze. The fire that killed Gonzales started in the basement.

A check by the GUARDIAN showed neither the fire department nor the Corporation Counsel's office had taken action to force correction of the hazard.

Atlas Hotel fire. In February, 1948, fire department inspectors

Keep 'em in the legislature!

POMONA, N. Y.

READERS of the GUARDIAN hardly need to be convinced that the current blizzard of bills aimed at "Communists" is intended to erase the liberties of everybody to the left of Herbert Hoover. Bills are now before the N. Y. legislature to disfranchise "Communists"; keep them off the ballot (along with the Progressive and American Labor parties, no doubt); to bar from school-teaching anybody belonging to any group called "subversiive" by Tom Clark; and so forth.

Dim stirrings in opposition are discernible, but nothing like the tempest one could expect if beer or bubble gum were at stake. What the hell—it's only the civil liberties of "Communists", whom Truman calls traitors anyway. A paralyzing torpor grips most of labor and 99% of the liberals. They never learned from the Hitler era that the way to save themselves is to punch, not duck.

I am convinced the ALP and all Progressive Party affiliates should have legislators in the state capitols who get there and stay there, instead of instantly drawing a bead on Washington.

Despite the complex political background of all this and the many serious considerations involved, some broad conclusions seem valid. As a plain ALP assembly district worker, I feel the people must have something better to rely on than the dubious virtues of legislators controlled by other parties but endorsed or supported by ALP or other Progressive Party organizations. Incomparably better would be men we put in and kept there to give years of service and get years of experience—just as the agents of major parties do.

The states govern the elections. Through that fact, the polltaxers keep their throttlehold on the national government. Witness their actions now on Truman's own civil liberties program. So it is important nationally to win state legislative seats.

If progressives are kept off the ballot by state laws, how will the Isacsons, Marcantonios and other progressives run for Congress? Remember how many states attempted (not without success in some cases) to keep Wallace off their ballots?

Above all, state politics control the localities where we must build grassroots organizations. Despite all the complexities involved, we must buckle down to building state machinery. When we put a man into a state legislature, we should keep him there term after term to do an effective job for the people. Let's stop trying to digest half-baked bread.

Victor Levitt.

LIVING & LEISURE

Radio report

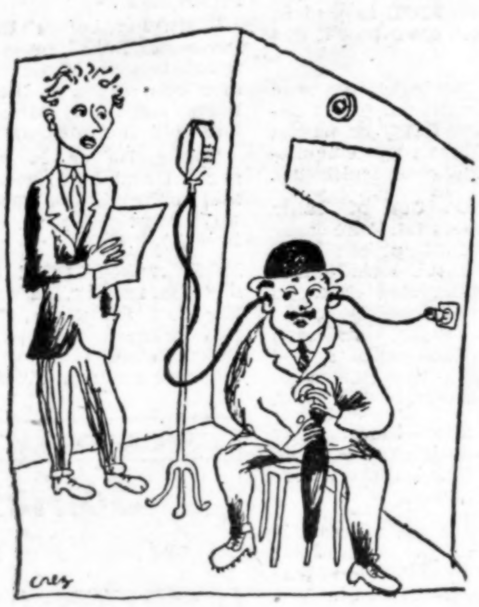
Freedom to pollute the air?

By John Norton

ON March 23 the Federal Communications Commission will examine a number of strange documents, admittedly written by the owner of three big radio stations to one of his news chiefs.

One of the memos reads:

> *Clete: Read this to our boys and meet often to do this job that will affect the future of everyone at KMPC and elsewhere.... I believe in making a chump of this [Administration] at every turn.... Hook Elliott [Roosevelt] up with his burlesque queens and other wives. They are the rum pots, dead end kids of the royal family that all but wrecked the world. If these facts are nailed down we can win in 1948—if not, no. Wish you would do an outstanding job in supervising the newscasters in political policy all year. It's the most important job we have ever had to do in 50 years. It's Marxism vs. Christianity. Our form of government or Socialism leading to Communism.*



Action, Paris

Censorship

50,000-WATT SMEARS. The man who got that memo is Clete Roberts, former news director of KMPC, Los Angeles. Roberts says it was written by G. A. Richards, majority owner of three 50,000-watt stations (they're as powerful as the law permits) — KMPC, WGAR (Cleveland) and WJR (Detroit). Richards made a practice of injecting his own political, racial and religious bias into newscasts, Roberts says.

Another former Richards employee, newsroom manager George E. Lewin, signed an affidavit that Richards told him to follow news reports on Communist activities with items about David Lilienthal, Henry Kaiser, Henry Wallace and Howard Hughes.

A third KMPC newsman, Maurie Starrels, said Richards told him to include the fact that Bugsy Siegel was a Jew in a report on the gangster's murder.

ALL IN THE FAMILY. These revelations were first brought to light in March, 1948, by **Billboard,** the show business weekly. Unions, civic groups and the Los Angeles Radio News Club appealed for quick action. A year has passed and as yet nothing has been done.

FCC hearings on the case have been postponed — and postponed again. In letters to the commission defending himself in connection with his memos to the staff Richards said that his top personnel are considered "members of his family" with whom he feels free to exaggerate and "to overstate, for the purpose of stimulating a reaction."

In short, it appears, Richards admits asking for slanted news but feels that his hatred of communism is excuse enough.

A TEST CASE. Will the FCC fall for this radioactive red herring, or will it revoke the licenses of the Richards stations?

On behalf of the Voice of Freedom Committee and the National Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions, Stanley Faulkner will examine evidence entered at the hearings and will ask permission to submit a brief as "friend of the court."

Future issues of the GUARDIAN will report on this important case, which may determine whether broadcasters have an unfettered franchise to distort the news we hear on the air.

Pots and pocketbooks

By Charlotte Parks

CHAIM WEIZMANN in his just-published biography paints a lovely picture of family life. The adolescent children are sitting round before dinner discussing the problems of the universe, and his mother is saying, as she walks toward the kitchen: "They've got to be fed or they won't have the strength to yell."

Certainly what we progressives need is strength to yell. The primary duty of the homemaker is to give her family that "strength to yell" which comes from good food, well-chosen, well-cooked, nicely served—and all within the limits of the family pocketbook.

Man is what he eats. You can whine, you can groan over the H. C. of L. But the politically literate housewife does the best possible with the job in hand, so that she and the family may have the energy to fight basic economic and political battles.

CUT-RATE CALCIUM. The budget-cutter needs a large repertoire of recipes if she would save money. Good appetite calls for variety. The best cuts of chops and steaks can be enjoyed with little variation, but to make a lamb stew a treat can call for near-genius.

An important cause of the real undernourishment in so many American homes today is the elimination of a necessary food without providing an adequate substitiute.

How many millions cut out butter and do not substitute margarine? How many cut out drinking milk and do not substitute dried milk or use more evaporated milk in cooking? How many try to use foods rich in calcium, like bananas and cabbage?

POTATO TRICK. The gourmet, who has studied the art of eating, knows that many of the dishes in high class restaurants are made of the less expensive ingredients.

Kasha with mushrooms is a dish that a family on a relief budget could afford, yet you enjoy it when you make a trip to a cocktail-serving restaurant. Give a dish a fancy name and it seems to slip down easier.

You have chopped beef for dinner. Unexpected company comes in. Not an egg in the house to bind the breadcrumbs you would use to eke out its scantiness! Add a grated raw potato to the meat and you have your meat cakes. Over the years this will save considerable egg money and your family may even like the result better.

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GUARDIAN readers have many economy ideas, helpful hints, cheap and time-saving recipes. For every one printed, GUARDIAN will give a free 13-week subscription to anyone the sender names. Have you any domestic questions? We'll be glad to answer them.

Next week: Four delicious soups made from potatoes.

DOLLAR STRETCHER

Those long term credits

By Sidney Margolius

THE "softer credit" rules announced by the Federal Reserve Board early this month are a boon to installment merchants and manufacturers reluctant to reduce prices, but a distinct disservice to the buying public.

Permission to stretch installment payments over longer periods came just in time to rescue auto makers, used-car dealers and credit stores from growing pressure to mark down price tags. Smaller installment payments make high prices less painful for the public to swallow, if not to digest.

JALOPY SWEEPSTAKES. Chief beneficiaries are the used-car dealers whose complaint was high down payments and sizable monthly installments had been discouraging buyers. The dealers, of course, could have reduced the discouraging size of monthly payments on a jalopy by cutting their own prices; in many cases they had been compelled to do so this winter. But now they can reduce payments by spreading them over 21 months.

Installment furniture stores also can now stretch customers' payments over 15 months.

YOU PAY MORE. Longer payments let the public in for a two-way gouge. Not only do they make high prices **seem** smaller, but they enable installment sellers to collect interest charges over a longer period. Besides hiding an extra charge for credit in the selling price itself, dealers charge an interest rate of 12% a year and more.

Under the old rules a family buying $300 worth of furniture from one of the more honest installment stores would pay a credit charge of $15.60 if it put 20% down and paid off in 12 months. Under the new rules, the store may require only 15% down and stretch the payments over 15 months. The service charge thus is $20.40.

THEY JACK IT UP. But an even more severe gouge is the high price tags in installment houses. By their own admission, even the most reliable furniture installment stores charge $300 for merchandise that a cash store would sell for $250. As for credit clothing stores, the manager of one once confided to this writer that he charged credit customers in the South $30 for dresses that cost him $10; dresses that even the swankiest Fifth Avenue shop would tag only $20.

Hidden overcharges by credit sellers have been so widespread since the war that at least one state, Pennsylvania, has limited the amount that can be tacked on as a credit charge. Similar legislation has been introduced in New York.

THE BUYER DOESN'T KNOW. A prevalent trick of used-car dealers is to lump credit charge, insurance fee and price of the car in one figure so the buyer doesn't know how much he's actually charged for the credit. One New Yorker who bought a used car on which the balance to be paid was $1,175, agreed to pay installments totalling $1,497.60 to include insurance and credit charge. Some months later he realized that the insurance was worth only about $65, and he was actually paying $257 as a credit charge—44% interest on his debt!

WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT. Actually, installment selling in the long run decreases consumption by diverting buying power into the hands of credit bankers. Every time a family pays $10 extra for a credit charge, that's ten bucks that can't buy clothes or furniture.

The best advice is to avoid buying on the installment plan altogether. But if you can't pay cash for something you must have, you can get a personal loan from a commercial bank (**not** a loan company) at a rate of interest **half that legally exacted by credit stores.**

And let the members of the Federal Reserve Board buy on the installment plan.

TEACHER
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